

## ***Graduate Program Course Descriptions***

The following section provides course descriptions for courses offered and required in the Research College of Nursing Graduate Programs: the Family Nurse Practitioner track, the Executive Nurse Practitioner: Health Care Leadership track, and the Nurse Educator Track. Course descriptions are also provided for the Health Care Leadership courses offered by the Helzberg School of Management through their Health Care Leadership Department. The number in parentheses following the course number and title indicates the semester credit hours for that course.

### **Master of Science in Nursing Core Courses**

#### **NU 6020. Theoretical Foundations of Nursing (3)**

In this course the student examines and assesses theory that provides a shared reality for the art and practice of nursing. Students and teachers will together investigate the relationship between theoretical orientation and normative judgments in clinical practice. Students prepare for theory-based advanced nursing practice by reviewing existing theories of and for nursing. Students will develop individual theories for practice based on existing theories and on personal philosophies. **Online format.**

#### **NU 6040. Contemporary Issues in Nursing (2)**

The focus of the course is on the examination and analysis of current issues and trends as they relate to advanced nursing practice. Selected factors affecting health care delivery and the legal, moral, and ethical implications for advanced nursing practice will be examined. A study of systems, leadership and organizational theories and their application to health care, including entrepreneurial practices, will be presented. Concepts of public policy and the impact of selected governmental organizations' policies will be examined as they relate to health care delivery and advanced nursing practice. **Online format.**

#### **NU 6060. Role Development in Advanced Nursing (3)**

The focus of this course is on role development in advanced nursing roles. Theories of role development, historical perspectives and current practice are explored. The sociocultural, political, legal, and economic environment of health care is examined as it relates to advanced nursing. Competencies and skills of various advanced nursing roles are emphasized. Accountability and responsibility for professional practice and quality health care are emphasized. Students are expected to be active participants in the learning experience. **Online format.**

#### **NU 6080. Nursing Research (3)**

This course focuses on the development of research skills through critique of quantitative and qualitative research reports for application to evidence-based nursing practice. Emphasis is placed on the relationship of research to the knowledge base and practice of nursing. Students are prepared for a required clinical research project or thesis option, to be completed during the program. **Online format.** Prerequisites: Undergraduate statistics course.

#### **NU 7480. Research Project (2 - 4)**

The research project provides an opportunity for scholarly work and application of theory acquired through the graduate program of study. The project should have relevance and make a contribution to the field of nursing. Under the direction of a student selected research project committee, the graduate student will refine the research project proposal typically initiated in NU 6080, submit the proposal to appropriate review committees, collect and analyze data, and prepare a complete research project report. The student will present the project. Research project credits are intended to be used in 0.5 credit hour increments over four semesters totaling two to four credit hours. Students should register for a minimum of 0.5 credit hours each semester (summer semester optional) until the project is completed. Ideally all research work should be completed before the last

clinical semester in the program, unless special permission is obtained. Prerequisites: NU 6080, or faculty permission.

#### **NU 7490. Research Utilization Project (2.0)**

(Students with previous credit in NU 7480 may register for variable credit [0.5 to 2.0] in one semester) to complete the Research Project)

The focus of the course will be a research utilization project which will provide an opportunity for scholarly work and application of theory. The project should have relevance and make a contribution to the field of nursing, health care administration, or nursing education. Under the direction of course faculty a student will develop a research utilization project applicable to their graduate area of study. Please refer to the Guidelines for Research Utilization Project for more specific directions. **Online format.** Prerequisites: NU 6080.

#### **NU 7500. Research Thesis (5 - 8)**

This course expands the research experience of the student. Under the direction of a faculty member and thesis committee, the student will prepare and orally defend a nursing research thesis. Students may select the thesis option initially or may use this course to expand the research project to a thesis. Prerequisites: NU 6080. permission.

#### **NU 6990. Independent Study (0.5 - 6.0)**

This course is used to meet individual needs related to the required program of study. It provides guided study on selected topics and/or areas of nursing. Student learning objectives and activities are mutually developed between the student and faculty member. Prerequisite: Faculty permission.

### **Advanced Practice Nursing Core Courses**

#### **NU 7040. Advanced Pathophysiology (3)**

This course examines complex physiologic cellular processes essential to an understanding of health deviations. Concepts are explored in relation to body systems. Age specific alterations are correlated with clinical manifestations and diagnostic findings to provide the student with a basis for clinical decision making, diagnostic reasoning and pharmacotherapeutics. **Online format.**

#### **NU 7060. Advanced Health Assessment (4)**

This course provides the theoretical and clinical base for comprehensive health assessment of individuals across the life span. Variations in and deviations from normal health assessment parameters will be discussed. Identification of risk factors and strategies for promoting health will be incorporated. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Undergraduate Health Assessment course or equivalent.

#### **NU 7080. Advanced Pharmacology (3)**

The focus of this course is on the clinical use of drugs commonly used in primary care settings. Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacotherapeutics of selected categories of drugs are explored. Variables such as age, race, and gender will be explored in relationship to specific prescribing practices. **Online format.**

### **Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty Courses**

#### **NU 7020. Family and Community Concepts (3)**

This course provides the advanced practice nursing student with the theoretical base necessary to examine family and community needs and plan interventions. Students explore the effect of selected family and community issues on family and community development. Strategies to promote healthy family and community functioning are identified and interventions are designed. Students' group projects simulate community collaboration in health planning. **Online format.**

**NU 7100. Primary Care I (4)**

This course focuses on the health maintenance and the management of common acute conditions and chronic conditions in adolescent, adult, and older adult patients. Students examine health changes with adolescent, adult, and older adult populations and will develop the theoretical and experiential base to conduct health promotion and maintenance activities in these populations. Students are prepared in the area of diagnoses and management of common self-limiting conditions and chronic conditions in a primary care setting. Prerequisites: NU 6020, NU 6060, NU 6080, NU 7040, NU 7060; NU 7080.

**NU 7110. Primary Care I Practicum (3)**

This course offers clinical experience with adolescent, adult, and older adult patients in the primary care setting. Students have the opportunity to apply theory in the clinical area, analyze practice patterns of nurse practitioners and/or physician preceptors, function as a member of an interdisciplinary team, and implement plans of care. Clinical sites are in primary care settings and provide student practice opportunities with clients. Students are focused on health maintenance and the management of common acute and chronic conditions with adolescent, adult, and older adult populations. All clinical practice is faculty supervised and performance based to ensure that students demonstrate competency in practice. Total clock hours equal 180. Prerequisite or Corequisite: NU 7100. Co requisite: NU 6080 with faculty permission.

**NU 7141. Primary Care II Pediatrics (2)**

This course examines health maintenance and management of common acute and chronic conditions with the pediatric population. The course focuses on health maintenance and management of common acute and chronic conditions. The student develops his or her own theoretical and experiential base to conduct health promotion and maintenance activities in the pediatric population. Furthermore, the student is prepared in the area of diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic conditions of these populations in the primary care setting. Prerequisites: NU 7100 and NU 7110; or permission of faculty.

**NU 7142. Primary Care II Women's Health (2)**

This course examines health maintenance and management of common acute and chronic conditions seen in women's health care. The course focuses on health maintenance and management of common acute and chronic conditions. The student develops his or her own theoretical and experiential base to conduct health promotion and maintenance activities with emphasis on women's health. Furthermore, the student is prepared in the area of diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic conditions. Prerequisites: NU 7100 and NU 7110; or permission of faculty.

**NU 7151. Primary Care II Practicum for the FNP (3)**

This course offers clinical experience in women's health and pediatrics. Students have the opportunity to apply theory in the clinical arena, analyze practice patterns of nurse practitioners and/or physician preceptors, function as a member of an interdisciplinary team, and implement plans of care. Clinical sites will be in primary and specialty areas providing the student practice opportunities with clients. Students will be focused on health maintenance and management of selected common acute and chronic disease states. All clinical practice is faculty supervised and performance based to ensure that students demonstrate competency in practice. Total clock hours equal 180. Prerequisite or Corequisite: NU 7100, 7110, NU 7141, 7142.

**NU 7451. Independent Primary Care Practicum for the FNP (5)**

This course focuses on the incorporation of previous knowledge and integration of nurse practitioner role behaviors in primary care practice. The student should integrate the knowledge from previous clinical and academic experiences to care for persons with chronic and acute issues throughout the lifespan.

Health maintenance recommendations should be included in all practice domains. Clinical supervision is provided by nurse practitioner faculty, and an on-site nurse practitioner or physician preceptor. Seminars with faculty provide opportunities to integrate the nurse practitioner role, to discuss professional issues, and discuss the process of effective change within the health care system. Total clock hours equal 300. Prerequisites: NU 7100, 7110, NU 7141, NU 7142, NU 7151.

## **Adult-Gero Nurse Practitioner Specialty Courses**

### **New Adult Gero Class**

This course is in the development and approval process. For more information, please see the Graduate Program Director

### **NU 7100. Primary Care I (4)**

This course focuses on the health maintenance and the management of common acute conditions and chronic conditions in adolescent, adult, and older adult patients. Students examine health changes with adolescent, adult, and older adult populations and will develop the theoretical and experiential base to conduct health promotion and maintenance activities in these populations. Students are prepared in the area of diagnoses and management of common self-limiting conditions and chronic conditions in a primary care setting. Prerequisites: NU 6020, NU 6060, NU 6080, NU 7040, NU 7060; NU 7080.

### **NU 7110. Primary Care I Practicum (3)**

This course offers clinical experience with adolescent, adult, and older adult patients in the primary care setting. Students have the opportunity to apply theory in the clinical area, analyze practice patterns of nurse practitioners and/or physician preceptors, function as a member of an interdisciplinary team, and implement plans of care. Clinical sites are in primary care settings and provide student practice opportunities with clients. Students are focused on health maintenance and the management of common acute and chronic conditions with adolescent, adult, and older adult populations. All clinical practice is faculty supervised and performance based to ensure that students demonstrate competency in practice. Total clock hours equal 180. Prerequisite or Corequisite: NU 7100. Co requisite: NU 6080 with faculty permission.

### **NU 7142. Primary Care II Women's Health (2)**

This course examines health maintenance and management of common acute and chronic conditions seen in women's health care. The course focuses on health maintenance and management of common acute and chronic conditions. The student develops his or her own theoretical and experiential base to conduct health promotion and maintenance activities with emphasis on women's health. Furthermore, the student is prepared in the area of diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic conditions. Prerequisites: NU 7100 and NU 7110; or permission of faculty.

### **NU 7152. Primary Care II Practicum for the ANP (3)**

This course offers the clinical experience with adolescent, adult, and older adult patients with particular interest in women's health. Students have the opportunity to apply theory in the clinical arena, analyze practice patterns of nurse practitioners and/or physician preceptors including women's health, function as a member of an interdisciplinary team, and implement plans of care. Clinical sites will be in primary and specialty areas providing the student practice opportunities with clients. Students will be focused on health maintenance, management of selected common acute conditions, stable chronic disease states and acute changes within these chronic states with the older adult but not limited to the older population and with the pregnant female. All clinical practice is faculty supervised and performance based to ensure that students demonstrate competency in practice. Total clock hours equal 180. Prerequisite or Corequisite: NU 7100, 7110, NU 7142.

### **NU 7452. Independent Primary Care Practicum for the ANP (5)**

This course focuses on the incorporation of previous knowledge and integration of nurse practitioner role behaviors in primary care practice. The student should integrate the knowledge from previous clinical and academic experiences to care for persons with chronic and acute issues throughout adolescent, adulthood, and older adulthood. Health maintenance recommendations should be included in all practice domains. Clinical supervision is provided by nurse practitioner faculty, and an on-site nurse practitioner of physician preceptor. Seminars with faculty provide opportunities to integrate the nurse practitioner role, to discuss professional issues, and discuss the process of effective change within the health care system. Total clock hours equal 300. Prerequisites: NU 7100, 7110, NU 7142, NU 7152.

## **Rockhurst University: Health Care Leadership (HCL) Courses**

### **HC 6125. Health Systems I (3)**

Health Systems I surveys the major components and organizational interrelationships of the United States health service system. Students examine the various health care organizations (HCOs), personnel issues, delivery systems, policy, and payment mechanisms. This course introduces students to the public policy and business practice issues associated with access, cost and quality. **Online format.**

### **HC 6325. Policy and Politics of Health Care (3)**

This course examines political issues affecting contemporary health care services by analyzing policy goals, public policy formulation processes, and external environments. Analysis blends the use of managerial epidemiology, biostatistics, political and economic analysis, with an understanding of public health initiatives. Future health care leaders also gain an appreciation for how political structures determine interactions with local and national governments. **Online format.**

### **MG 6100. Leadership and Organizational Behavior (3)**

This course is designed to increase students' awareness of organizational processes and practices including leadership, management, motivation, morale group dynamics, interpersonal communications, conflict and group problem solving. This course provides conceptual insights and behavioral skills needed for successful leadership of continuous improvement in individual, team and organizational performance. The course also highlights unique ethical, technological, regulatory and practical considerations for leadership within healthcare organizations. **Online format.**

### **MG 6200. Human Resource Management (3)**

This course focuses on the emerging role of the human resources function in enabling higher levels of organizational performance. Traditional HR functions such as recruitment, selection, training, performance management, employee relations, career development, succession planning, equal employment, benefits and compensation are covered. Students will also discuss organizational structures and explore state-of-the-art employee participation and organizational design trends. **Online format.** Prerequisite: MG 6100.

## **Executive Nurse Practice: Specialty Courses**

### **NU 7200. Executive Nurse Seminar I (2)**

This course covers intra-organizational content in the areas of organizational management and organizational structure (human resources, internal policy and procedure). The health care delivery system and its environment are also addressed along with issues such as ethics, legal and regulatory and economic concepts. Specific attention is given to the application of these concepts specifically as students encounter learning situations regarding the above concepts. This course is intended to serve as a companion course to NU 7210, Executive Nurse Practicum I. This course is offered online through WebCT. **Online format.** Prerequisites: NU 6020, NU 6060, NU 6080, MG 6100, HC 6125, or faculty permission; Concurrent: NU 7210. .

### **NU 7210. Executive Nurse Practicum I (3)**

This course provides clinical practicum experiences that allow students opportunity to apply theoretical and executive management concepts with a focus on intra-organizational issues. All major theoretical concept areas are applied including organizational structure, economic factors, human resources, ethics and legal/regulatory concerns. Clinical supervision is provided by college faculty and selected preceptors who are nurse executives. Clinical conferences with faculty provide opportunity for integration of the executive role, understanding of professional issues and discussion of problem-solving processes. This course is intended to serve as a companion course to NU 7200, Executive Nurse Seminar I. **Online format.** Total clock hours equal 180. Prerequisites: NU 6020, NU 6060, NU 6080, MG 6100, HC 6125; Concurrent: NU 7200 or faculty permission

### **NU 7220. Executive Nurse Seminar II (2)**

This course covers extra-organizational content in the areas of organizational management and organizational structure (human resources, internal policy and procedure). The health care delivery system and its environment are also addressed along with issues such as ethics, legal/regulatory and economic concepts. Specific attention is given to the application of these concepts as students encounter learning situations regarding the above concepts. This course is intended to be the second in a two course sequence (NU7200 and NU 7220) and to serve as a companion course to NU 7230, Executive Practicum II. **Online format.** Prerequisites: NU 6020, NU 6060, NU 6080; MG 6100, HC 6125; Concurrent: NU 7230 or faculty permission.

### **NU 7230. Executive Practicum II (3)**

This course provides clinical practicum experiences that allow students opportunity to apply theoretical and executive management concepts with a focus on extra-organizational issues. All major theoretical concept areas are applied including organizational structure, economic factors, human resources, ethics and legal/regulatory concerns. Clinical supervision is provided by college faculty and selected preceptors who are nurse executives. Clinical conferences with faculty provide opportunity for integration of the executive role, understanding of professional issues and discussion of problem-solving processes. This course is intended to be the second in a two course sequence (NU 7210 and NU 7230) and to serve as a companion course to NU 7220, Executive Nurse Seminar II. **Online format.** Total clock hours equal 180. Prerequisites: NU 6020, NU 6060, NU 6080; MG 6100, HC 6125 or faculty permission. Concurrent: NU 7220.

## **Executive Nurse Certificate: Practicum Courses**

### **NU 7215. Executive Nurse Practicum I (1)**

This course provides clinical practicum experiences that allow students opportunity to apply selected theoretical and executive management concepts with a focus on intra-organizational issues. Major theoretical concept areas are applied including organizational structure, economic factors, human resources, ethics and legal/regulatory concerns. Clinical supervision is provided by college faculty and selected preceptors who are nurse executives. Discussions with faculty provide opportunity for integration of the executive role, understanding of professional issues and discussion of problem-solving processes. This course is intended to serve as a companion course to NU 7200, Executive Nurse Seminar I. This course is web-enhanced through WebCT. Total clock hours equal 60 hours.

### **NU 7225. Executive Nurse Practicum II (1)**

This course provides clinical practicum experiences that allow students opportunity to apply selected theoretical and executive management concepts with a focus on extra-organizational issues. Major theoretical concept areas are applied including organizational structure, economic factors, human resources, ethics and legal/regulatory concerns. Clinical supervision is provided by college faculty and selected preceptors who are nurse executives. Discussions with faculty provide opportunity for integration of the executive role, understanding of professional issues and discussion of problem-solving processes. This course is intended to

serve as a companion course to NU 7220, Executive Nurse Seminar II. This course is web-enhanced through WebCT. Total clock hours equal 60 hours.

### **Nurse Educator: Specialty Courses**

#### **NU 7300. Instructional Strategies (3)**

In this course students examine the instructional process. The focus is on learning theories, the learning environment, and instructional strategies. **Online format.**

#### **NU 7310. Evaluation Strategies (3)**

In this course students examine the evaluation process. The focus is on the evaluation process, measurement strategies and related sociocultural, ethical, and legal issues. Pre-requisite NU 7300 or with faculty permission **Online format.**

#### **NU 7320. Program Development (3)**

In this course students examine curriculum processes for educational program development. The focus is on examination of the theoretical foundations for program philosophy, curriculum design, and analysis of the impact of external and economic factors on program development. **Online format.**

#### **NU 7330. Nursing Focused Practicum (2)**

In this course students are provided with the opportunity to integrate previous knowledge and develop proficiency in a focused area of clinical nursing. Students will collaborate with faculty to identify individualized plans for focused study that will be implemented with a nurse preceptor who specializes in the focused area. Total clock hours equal 120. Prerequisites: NU 7040, NU 7060, and NU 7080. **Online format.**

#### **NU 7340. Education Focused Practicum (2)**

In this course, students are expected to integrate previous knowledge and develop proficiency in the role of nurse educator. Students will collaborate with faculty to develop an individualized plan of study related to their educational interest. Total clock hours equal 120. Prerequisites: NU 6020, NU 6060, NU 6080, NU 7040, NU 7060, NU 7080, NU 7300, NU 7310, NU 7330 or with faculty permission. **Online format.**