### Doctor of Nursing Science

#### PROGRAM COURSES

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47 credits
Electives

Academic Emphasis Track (Academic Emphasis)

Instructional Strategies 3
Course Development I 3
Course Development II 3
Grant Writing 3
Clinicians in Academia 3

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Comprehensive Clinical Reasoning (3 credits)

This course is a study of normal and abnormal structure and function of the neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular pulmonary, lymphatic, integument, GI Hepatic, genitourinary, immunology, hematological, and endocrine systems throughout the lifespan. Pathological alterations of structure and function including relevant laboratory values and diagnostic tests are included. Theories and concepts of clinical decision-making, developing a prognosis (using epidemiologic data), diagnosis and prevention will also be discussed. Clinical reasoning mixed with evidence-based decision making across the life span will also be discussed. This will include hypothesis generation and refinement applied within the context of the nursing practice model. The course will also focus on analyzing and comparing contemporary and traditional interventions and the impact of evolving technology.
Health & Wellness Theory & Practice (3 credits)

This course presents discussions of theories of health and wellness, including motivational theory, locus of control, public health initiatives, ethical analysis, cultural competencies and psychosocial, spiritual, cultural considerations, principles of professional communications will also be discussed. The course also includes the role of the educator in the academic and clinical environment, and teaching and learning theories that include discussion of the motivational theory, social motivational theory as they apply to practice across multiple environments.

Healthcare Systems & Management (3 credits)

This course includes discussions on risk reduction strategies for primary and secondary prevention, including programs for special populations. This will also include discussions on delivery systems, legislation, and regulations to improve healthcare policy, and corporate/legal and regulatory factors. Concepts of business planning, including strategic planning, financial management, personnel management, physical resource management, communication skills in business management, marketing and public relations will also be discussed.

Ethical Issues in Nursing Practice (3 credits)

This course examines ethical principles and issues that are faced in the advanced nursing practice. Effective strategies in dealing with ethical dilemmas and decision making will also be discussed. The course will focus on ethical issues that are arising in the current practice of healthcare.

Organizational and Systemic Leadership (3 credits)

This course will focus on organizational and systemic theories involved in the delivery of healthcare. A theoretical framework will be created for the discussion of motivation, power, leadership, resource management, influence and strategic planning. Principles of quality assurance and continuous process improvement will also be addressed.
Financial Management & Economics in Health Care (3 credits)

This course examines the main tenets of managing the financial components of the health care delivery systems. It will also outline the economic principles that are involved in these same delivery systems. The course will highlight the various impacts that the financial and economic health care environments have on nursing administration.

Information Systems in Healthcare (3 credits)

This course will focus on the principles of information technology in the delivery of health care. It will also emphasize the theories and concepts on the use of information systems in advanced nursing practice and healthcare in general.

Interprofessional Collaboration in Healthcare (3 credits)

This course is designed to discuss the theories of interprofessional collaboration in healthcare. The course will focus on concepts that involve communication with healthcare professionals and provider-client communication. The course will also highlight role transformation of the nursing profession and its effects on the delivery of health care.

Evidence Based Practice in Nursing (3 credits)

This course will emphasize the principles and concepts of evidence based practice in advanced nursing practice. It will also outline how to utilize and evaluate the outcomes of evidence base medicine in the practice of nursing.

Concepts of Epidemiology (3 credits)

This course examines the use of various epidemiological models to assess the environmental factors that are contributing to health related problems. The course will focus on strategies that will address the various contributing factors that are identified within the environment.
Biostatistics (3 credits)

This course focuses on the principles of biostatistics and its relevancy in epidemiology. The course will outline the concepts in analyzing statistical outcomes to identify contributing factors in health related problems.

Outcome Measurements & Analysis (3 credits)

This course discusses the basic quantitative, qualitative, epidemiologic methods and designs, which include basic biostatistics, concepts of reliability and validity, critical appraisal of literature, and the development of a research proposal and clinical guidelines. Evidence-based clinical decision-making, including locating and accessing sources of evidence, evaluating levels of evidence, applying evidence to clinical practice and integrating evidence, patient values and preferences and clinical experience will also be included. Relevant test and measures for determining impairment and differentiating the diagnosis based on the specificity and sensitivity of the instrument along with outcome measures relating to functional disability, general health status, and patient/client satisfaction used to assess and guide rehab management will also be discussed.

Critical Inquiry (3 credits)

The course will examine the research process in health care. It will also highlight the process of utilizing and interpreting the literature. The course will focus on evaluating scientific and clinical literature as it relates to the nursing profession and the healthcare environment.

DNSc Capstone Seminar (2 credits)

This course will discuss the concepts of project planning, implementation, management and evaluation in advanced nursing practice. Principles of practice improvement, innovation and testing of interventions will also be addressed.
DNSc Capstone Project (6 credits)

This course focuses on the implementation of research skills learned from previous courses in the development of a scholarly written paper. Emphasis will be placed on producing a project that addresses issues in advanced nursing practice.

Electives

*All credits must be completed in desired elective emphasis track for a degree completion with an emphasis. If no degree with an emphasis is desired, students must complete at least 6 credits from any of the emphasis tracks.

Academic Track

Instructional Strategies (3 credits)

This course presents the framework of theory and practice of various strategies in providing and delivering instruction in physical therapy practice. Learning styles, types of assessments and keeping your audience will also be addressed.

Course Development I (3 credits)

This course presents topics on syllabus development that includes but not limited to objective writing, content outline and lecture preparation.

Course Development II (3 credits)

This course outlines the theory of assessments and development, appropriate assessment selection and advanced lecture preparation skills.

Grant Writing (3 credits)

This course describes the grant seeking process, designing a letter of intent, proposal writing and executing a grant funded program.

Clinicians in Academia (3 credits)

This course is a primer on academia and health professional education, role and responsibilities of a faculty member.