

NURSING: PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER CONCENTRATION, MASTER OF SCIENCE

MS Psychiatric-Mental Health

This program will prepare students to provide advanced evidence-based patient-centered care psychiatric and mental health patients across the lifespan. The graduate will be eligible to take the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner certification examination.

School of Nursing Mission

The mission of the School of Nursing is to prepare graduates for professional positions as safe, competent, and caring nurses to meet the health care needs of diverse populations.

Acceptance of Transfer Credits

Transfer credit will be awarded per the published Graduate Programs section of the University catalog. A maximum of nine semester hours of transfer credits from an accredited institution may be applied to the degree with approval from the graduate nursing program director.

Time Limits

Courses completed 6 or more years before the date of graduation will not be accepted as satisfying graduation requirements without the approval by the graduate nursing program director.

Specific Admission Requirements

Students are responsible for following all admission policies and procedures as outlined in the Graduate Studies section of the University catalog.

1. Complete application to the nursing program.
2. Proof of active, unrestricted Colorado or Colorado Nursing Compact State Registered Nurse license for all MS and MS-DNP emphasis options or by the end of the first semester for the BSN-DNP emphases options).
3. Bachelor's degree in Nursing from an accredited university with a 3.0 GPA, or higher (MS, BSN-DNP and associate post-masters certificate options).
4. All prerequisites must be passed with a C or better (C- is not acceptable) including statistics, microbiology and chemistry. Students receiving a grade less than C in a nursing prerequisite course are not eligible for admission.

MS-DNP Program and associated post-masters certificate options. Master's degree in Nursing from an accredited university with a 3.0 GPA, or higher is required.

Program Outcomes

1. Eighty percent of graduates will:
 - Express satisfaction with the program
 - Pass national certification exam the first time
 - Be employed in role-related professional practice within six months to one year
2. Seventy percent of graduates will complete their program on-time starting from enrollment day one of the first class of their nursing option.
3. Eighty percent of employers' will express satisfaction with graduates' job performance.

Expected Student Learning Outcomes for Masters Programs

At the completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

1. Integrate evidence-based practice, ethical decision making and technology into advanced nursing practice.
2. Utilize interprofessional collaboration to provide safe, quality patient-centered care.
3. Explore quality improvement initiatives that affect delivery of advanced nursing practice and health care services.

Specific Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Year 1		
Fall		
NSG 504	NSG Writing & Presentation Skills	1
NSG 506	Roles and Issues	2
NSG 508	Advanced Practice Theory	3
NSG 552	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG 561	Advanced Pharmacology	3
Credits		12
Spring		
NSG 512	Research & Evidenced Based Practice	3
NSG 562	Advanced Assessment	2
NSG 562L	Advanced Assessment Lab	1
NSG 676	Theoretical Mental Health Models	2
NSG 677	Psychopharmacology	2
Credits		10
Summer		
NSG 551	Health Promotion	2
NSG 571	Healthcare Informatics	2
NSG 678	Psychiatric Assessment & Evaluation	2
NSG 679	Psychiatric Differential Diagnosis	2
Credits		8
Year 2		
Fall		
NSG 651	Psych Mental Health I	2
NSG 651L	PMH Practicum I	2
Credits		4
Spring		
NSG 548	Healthcare: Ethics, Law & Policy	3
NSG 652	Psych Mental Health II	2
NSG 652L	PMH Practicum II	2
NSG 655L	PMH Practicum MS	1-3
Credits		8-10

Summer		
NSG 653	Psych Mental Health III	3
NSG 653L	PMH Practicum III	3
NSG 655L	PMH Practicum MS	1-3
Credits		7-9
Year 3		
Fall		
NSG 654	Psych Mental Health IV	3
NSG 654L	PMH Practicum IV	3
NSG 655L	PMH Practicum MS	1-3
Credits		7-9
Total Credits		56-62

Course	Title	Credits
Optional		
NSG 505	Biostatistics & Research	3
NSG 575	Curriculum Development	3
NSG 576	Instructional Strategies	3
NSG 577	Assessment & Evaluation	3
NSG 593	Thesis Seminar	3
NSG 599	Thesis Research	3-6

Practicum Hours

Course	Title	Credits
Total Lab Hours		30
Total Clinical Practice Hours		780
Open Electives		0-21
Total Practicum Hours		810-831

All courses and number of credits for practicum must be completed in sequence following the program curriculum plan.

NSG 655L PMHNP Practicum MS (1-3 cr.) is a variable credit course. This program requires a total of 3 cr. and 10 cr. in other PMHNP practicum for a total of 13 cr. MS students complete NSG 655L 1- credit each semester with other PMHNP practicum courses over the final 3 semesters of the program.

Students admitted prior to Fall 2024: program requires 585 hours in PMHNP practicum.

Students admitted starting Fall 2024 need to complete 780 hours in PHMNP practicum.

All students must successfully pass an oral comprehensive exam to meet concentration competency requirements or Thesis is optional (6-9 cr.).

Specific Graduation Requirements

The graduate degree will be granted to candidates who meet all of the University catalog requirements plus the following:

1. Graduate cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
2. All courses must be passed with a B or better.
3. Completed oral comprehensive exam or directed research or thesis. If choosing to complete a directed research project or thesis you will need to contact the Graduate Nursing Program Coordinator by the end of your second semester.

Planning Sheet

Disclaimer: The Planning Sheet is designed as a guide for student's planning their course selections. The information on this page provides only a suggested schedule. Actual course selections should be made with the advice and consent of an academic advisor. While accurately portraying the information contained in the college catalog, this form is not considered a legal substitute for that document. Students should become familiar with the catalog in effect at the time in which they entered the institution.

Course	Title	Credits
Year 1		
Fall		
NSG 506	Roles and Issues	2
NSG 508	Advanced Practice Theory	3
NSG 552	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG 561	Advanced Pharmacology	3
Credits		11
Spring		
NSG 512	Research & Evidenced Based Practice	3
NSG 562	Advanced Assessment	2
NSG 562L	Advanced Assessment Lab	1
NSG 676	Theoretical Mental Health Models	2
NSG 677	Psychopharmacology	2
Credits		10
Summer		
NSG 551	Health Promotion	2
NSG 571	Healthcare Informatics	2
NSG 678	Psychiatric Assessment & Evaluation	2
NSG 679	Psychiatric Differential Diagnosis	2
Credits		8
Year 2		
Fall		
NSG 504	NSG Writing & Presentation Skills (Optional to meet financial services enrollment requirement)	1
NSG 651	Psych Mental Health I	2
NSG 651L	PMH Practicum I	2
Credits		5
Spring		
NSG 548	Healthcare: Ethics, Law & Policy	3
NSG 652	Psych Mental Health II	2
NSG 652L	PMH Practicum II	2
NSG 655L	PMH Practicum MS	1
Credits		8
Summer		
NSG 653	Psych Mental Health III	3
NSG 653L	PMH Practicum III	3
NSG 655L	PMH Practicum MS	1
Credits		7
Year 3		
Fall		
NSG 654	Psych Mental Health IV	3
NSG 654L	PMH Practicum IV	3
NSG 655L	PMH Practicum MS	1
Credits		7
Total Credits		56