

**Notre Dame College  
Division of Nursing**

**Master of Science in Nursing Education  
Course Descriptions**

**NR 500 Nursing Theory:**

Introduction to the theoretical foundations of advanced practice nursing. Emphasis on the historical, cultural, philosophical, ontological, and epistemological foundations of nursing theoretical knowledge. Analysis of the relationship between nursing theory and nursing education, practice and research. Evaluation of the nursing concepts, models, and theories for their use in nursing practice. Critical analysis of selected theories that are used to support nursing education, practice and research and application of selected theories to advanced nursing practice roles. *3 credits.*

**NR 510 Advanced Pathophysiology**

This course focuses on developing an advanced knowledge base of pathophysiology of the human body and of the impact of this knowledge based on evidence-based practice. It will prepare advanced practice nurses to understand the mechanism underlying the disease process, its clinical manifestations, and rational therapies. Appropriate screening and diagnostic testing methods will also be included. Students will apply this knowledge to patients in their clinical area of focus. *3 credits.*

**NR 520 Principles of Education in Nursing**

NR 520 presents perspectives related to teaching and learning with an emphasis on evidence-based teaching theories, technologies, and skills. The focus of this course is the characteristics of different learners and contemporary approaches to educating nurses in various settings. Nurse educator roles especially as clinical teacher and mentor are presented and discussed. *3 credits.*

**NR 530 Research and Informatics**

This course builds upon undergraduate statistics and research courses and will focus on the relationship between nursing theory, research, informatics, and practice for evidence-based practice. This course will focus on issues such as the identification of practices and system problems, evaluation of research studies and systematic reviews, development and implementation of evidence-based and value-based approaches to practice. Students are expected to integrate an evidence-based approach into their practice. *3 credits.*

**Prerequisites:** NR 500 Nursing Theory & NR 510 Advanced Pathophysiology

**NR 535 Advanced Pharmacology**

This course will build upon principles of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, drug metabolism and transport, assessment of drug effects, drug therapy in special populations. Contemporary drug development will be discussed as a foundation for the use of medications in the clinical management of diseases. Major classes of drugs will be discussed in terms of actions; therapeutics and other effects; adverse, allergic and idiosyncratic reactions; indications and

contraindications. In the clinical application of this course, students will apply pharmacology principles to patients in their identified clinical area of focus. *3 credits.*

**Prerequisites:** NR 510 Advanced Pathophysiology

**NR 540 Advanced Health Assessment:**

This course will provide the master's level student with advanced assessment tools that prepares the student to conduct a comprehensive and systematic assessment that includes physical, psychosocial, and cultural assessment across the lifespan. Specific data relevant to common health problems is demonstrated. Utilization of information technology to enhance interdisciplinary communication is addressed. Focus on comprehensive as well as focused assessments for a variety of patient scenarios. *3 credits.*

**NR550: Teaching/Learning Strategies**

This course is an overview of a variety of learning and instructional strategies to assist in the implementation of teaching plans. General principles and methodologies related to learning and instruction are integrated into face-to-face and technology-enhanced techniques. *3 credits.*

**Prerequisites:** NR 500 Nursing Theory, NR 520 Principles of Nursing Education

**NR 560: Curriculum Development**

Students will engage in scholarly inquiry related to the ongoing development of relevant and dynamic nursing education curricula. A context-relevant curriculum, geared to the professional, societal, health care, and educational situations to which the curriculum must respond, will be the focus. Students will investigate the elements of curriculum development necessary to create a program of study that will meet the contextual needs of unique individual settings while meeting the learning needs of diverse students. *3 credits.*

**Prerequisites:** NR 550 Teaching and Learning Strategies.

**NR 570 Health Promotion:**

This course presents a variety of clinical interventions that influence the goal of achieving health at the primary, secondary, or tertiary levels of health care. Goals of Healthy People 2020 will be examined. Key concepts include healthy lifestyles, self-care, nursing therapeutics, caring, critical thinking, multicultural issues and risk reduction. Principles of Health Promotion will be applied to patients in student's area of clinical focus. *3 credits.*

**NR 580 Evaluation of Learning:**

This course will provide methods of assessing learning outcomes for individuals and groups in academic and clinical settings. Emphasis is placed on theoretical reflections and empirical methods used to evaluate educational programs, institutions, personnel, and students. *3 credits.*

**Prerequisites:** NR 560 Curriculum Development.

**NR 590 Health Care Systems and Ethics:**

Health care policy and nursing's role in affecting policy decisions and professional practice within the context of ethics and advocacy in an evolving global environment will be addressed. The effects of legal and regulatory processes on nursing practice, health care delivery and outcomes will be examined as it relates to access, cost, and quality of health care. *3 credits.*

**Prerequisites: NR 500**

**NR 600 Capstone Project:**

This course provides the student near the end of the program of study the opportunity to synthesize knowledge gained from the overall program. The student will delineate a contemporary question related to the practice of education within the profession of nursing, search for academic evidence that sheds light upon or helps to answer the question, synthesize the evidence, and present the best answer to the question at this time. Each student will work on an individual project. This course project meets the college requirements for the comprehensive examination / thesis for the master's degree. *3 credits*

**Prerequisites: NR 500, 510, 520, 530, 535, 540, 550, 560, 570, 580, 590, 600 or permission of instructor**

**NR 610 Practicum:**

This clinically based course provides the opportunity for students to operationalize the theoretical principles and concepts studied in previous courses. Students will have the opportunity to assume the role of educator within a selected specialty area. This practicum provides the student with 120 precepted hours. *3 credits*

**Prerequisites: NR 500, 510, 520, 530, 535, 540, 550, 560, 570, 580, 590, 600 or permission of instructor.**