

## MSN Course Description Revisions Necessary for Introduction of the Nurse Educator Track, September 2015

Rationale:

1. MSN courses for both tracks need to delete specific reference to the CNL or make reference to both tracks or the master's prepared nurse.
2. Two courses, MSN 6040 and MSN 6300, have titling changes that are not substantive but more accurately represent course content.
3. The track changes feature was left on so the reader can assess the impact of the recommended changes.
4. These changes were discussed in the MSN meeting in December and approved by the Nursing Division on 2/11/15.

### **MSN 6000    Advanced Assessment and Clinical Reasoning**

**3 credits**

Advanced assessment builds on basic physical assessment concepts and addresses comprehensive health assessment. The course applies clinical decision making models while integrating assessment skills and techniques. Emphasis is placed on techniques of complete history taking and systematic physical assessment utilized by the ~~master's prepared nurse~~Clinical Nurse Leader in the identification of health needs in differing care environments.

Upon successful completion of this course, the learner:

1. Develop skills in identifying normal and variation in normal physical findings
2. Establish a climate and relationship that enhances client contribution to the data collection process.
3. Perform complete and comprehensive health assessments using techniques of inspection, palpation, percussion and auscultation.
4. Use accurate communication techniques verbally and in oral case presentations and in medical record
5. Perform a risk assessment of the client including environment, life style and genetics
6. Interpret laboratory data taking into account evidence of human diversity.

### **MSN 6040 Advanced Evidence-Based Research and Statistical Analysis** **3 credits**

~~—Analysis~~

This course examines research design, analysis, and strategies for incorporation into nursing practice. It focuses on methods of using research findings to solve identified clinical problems, and in developing questions appropriate for population-based research. The course prepares students to conduct analytic critiques of the research literature for scientific merit, and to synthesize these critiques for application to practice. Students will examine evidenced based

guidelines and will articulate how evidence-based research can be used to implement and their research base to evaluate outcomes. The course emphasizes research-based nursing practice in clinical population management.

1. Examines how nursing knowledge is advanced and generated through research.
2. Identifies a researchable clinical question.
3. Describes the role of the master's prepared nurseCNL in relation to bedside research.
4. Analyzes ethical questions associated with ~~clinical~~ research done on human subjects.
5. Compares qualitative and quantitative designs in relation to a particular clinical question.
6. Discusses the appropriate statistical analysis for answering a given research questionsproblem.
7. Analyzes current research-based evidence for applicability in a clinical setting.

### **MSN 6100 Leadership**

**3 credits**

This course focuses on the history, development and integration of the role of the master's prepared nurseClinical Nurse Leader as a reflective practitioner. Course content includes leadership, chaos, and complexity theories, and the relationship of these theories to error and innovation in health care. Concepts of conflict, change and communication, coaching and mentoring, and advocacy, vision and creativity are discussed. Emphasis is placed on ~~the characteristics of the CNL role and~~ understanding and fostering development of individual leadership abilities by creating an opportunity for students to assess and reflect upon their own approaches to leadership. ~~as a Clinical Nurse Leader.~~

1. Critically evaluates major leadership theories.
2. Compares and contrasts leaders in health care organizations.
3. Explores nursing leadership styles while developing a plan for professional self development.
4. Evaluates self in terms of leadership, values, competencies and self awareness.
5. Describes ~~the master's prepared nurse rolea vision of the CNL role~~ considering the mission, goals and values of a current clinical or educational venue.
6. Understands the history, philosophy and responsibilities of the master's prepared nurseCNL role.
7. Recognizes the importance of advocacy for the role of nursing as a member of the interdisciplinary health care team.

### **MSN 6200 Advanced Pathophysiology**

**3 credits**

This course emphasizes utilizing knowledge of physiological alterations as a framework for clinical decision-making. Includes novel and break through scientific gains in pathophysiology using the most current literature and evidence.

1. Uses critical thinking and knowledge of specific pathophysiological or biochemical alterations to improve thinking, problem-solving and decisions
2. Uses appropriate pathophysiological labeling and terminology in presentations and communications in health care.
3. Analyzes contextual and environmental risk reduction strategies that affect selected pathophysiological process and health promotion outcomes
4. Integrates knowledge from science and the arts to form a comprehensive understanding of

physiological process affecting clients.

5. Explains pathologic processes underlying human structural and functional disorders and how this impacts ~~the master's prepared nurse on the CNL role.~~
6. Develops greater understanding and commitment to personal values including the ethics of treatments based on a broader understanding of physiological functioning.
7. Describes the physiologic adaptive potential of individuals and uses current evidence-based research to support quality-nursing practice.

**MSN 6300    Nursing Theory, Science and  
Evidence Based Practice**

**3 credits**

This course focuses on nursing science, nursing theorists, adjunctive discipline theorists, and the use of evidence based information to advance nursing knowledge. Learners discuss and analyze conceptual and theoretical perspectives specific to advanced nursing practice. The processes of creating theory based practice guidelines and using theory guided pedagogy will be explored. Emphasis is on creating strategies for the master's prepared nurse to incorporate making theory into the clinical and educational practice-based practice a reality in the practice environments.

1. Discuss the historical and contemporary theoretical contributions to nursing knowledge.
2. Analyze concepts and theories from nursing and adjunctive disciplines.
3. Examine how nursing theories and borrowed theories inform / advance nursing practice.
4. Examine theories for their relevance within varied health care delivery systems and nursing education.
5. Identify values that foster inquiry, development, and application of theory based practice guidelines for in the clinical and educational settings.

**MSN 6450    Health Policy, Systems  
and Financing**

**3 credits**

This course provides the student with an overview of development, implementation, and evaluation of health policy on local, national, and global levels. The student considers the impact of health care policies on a variety of stakeholders including patients and families, care providers, insurers, and governmental regulators. A discussion of the impact of health policy financing and reimbursement within both public and private health care delivery organizations allows the learner to develop insight into considerations for individual nursing practice.

1. Critically evaluates a patient care unit for cost effective practices and the policies that drive them.
2. Contrasts the typically vague language of legislation and the specific rules that are developed to govern policy.
3. Utilizes the policy analysis approach in solving problems and making decisions.
4. Analyzes the impact of economics and societal values on decision-making and policy development.

5. Analyzes political processes at the state and national level and the role of nurses and nursing organizations in influencing political decision making and policy development.
6. Evaluates ethical dilemmas and decision-making within a health care delivery system.
7. Evaluates the role of the media in political and policy development.

#### **MSN 6500    Advanced Pharmacology**

**3 credits**

Advanced pharmacology builds upon a basic understanding of the concepts and principles of pharmacology. Advancing knowledge of drug actions, clinical usage of drugs and rationales for drug therapy are included. Physiological factors of disease processes are related to drug mechanisms.

1. Understands the pharmacotherapeutics, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of broad categories of drugs.
2. Applies an understanding of pharmacologic agents prescribed for clients across health care settings.
3. Demonstrates an understanding of the challenges to patient safety inherent in medication administration.
4. Performs a root cause analysis of a medication error.
5. Acts as a patient advocate in the safe selection of appropriate pharmacologic agents for the management of client health problems based on client variations, ethnic and genetic differences.
6. Acts as a resource to staff and clients by providing comprehensive and appropriate education regarding pharmacologic agents prescribed for clients.
7. Analyzes the effects of drug regimens on clients' condition and outcome.
8. Functions as an interdisciplinary member of the health team with those involved in prescribing and dispensing pharmacologic agents.
9. Applies current evidence based pharmacologic evidence in the care of complex clients.

#### **MSN 6600 Informatics and Health**

**3 credits**

##### **Information Management**

This hybrid course will use classroom and online approaches for class content. TIGER (Technology Informatics Guiding Educational Reform) competencies will guide course content. Students will assess systems that underlie all information technologies, and change theories. Students will utilize informatics to assess the care environment and to improve patient care outcomes and will demonstrate a beginning competency in informatics to monitor, educate and improve organizational and clinical performance. The role of the ~~master's prepared nurse~~**Clinical Nurse Leader** as a participant in the design and implementation of information technology systems in departmental and hospital-wide initiatives will be understood in the context of current workplace environments.

1. Develops and understanding of how nursing informatics can improve the quality of health care
2. Explores how information technology allows nurses to access knowledge that advances patient care

3. Recognizes how health information systems affect decision making in patient care
4. Examines the role of computers, networks, software, data, and human resources
5. Recognizes the legal, ethical and moral issues associated with health information systems
6. Demonstrates the use of information systems to drive effective and efficient use of human resources

**MSN 7982 Capstone ~~CNL~~ Seminar**

**2 credits**

The capstone seminar allows students to apply skills acquired in their master's course work and collaborate more with faculty to design a specific clinical or educational project. Using critical analysis of data sets or other educational or clinical instruments for decision-making, the student will implement a project or an evidence-based practice intervention. ~~appropriate to the CNL role.~~ The final paper will be submitted in manuscript form suitable for publication. ~~Students will lead a discussion on a focused clinical population problem related to their clinical setting.~~ Clinical topics and populations will focus on the leading health indicators and ~~the~~ national priority areas.

MSN 6400-6401 NO CHANGE, CNL focused courses

MSN 6700-6701 NO CHANGE, CNL focused courses

MSN 7983 NO CHANGE, CNL focused immersion

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