School of Nursing

Degrees Offered

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Master of Science in Nursing
- Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

Introduction

The mission of the WVU School of Nursing is to lead in improving health in West Virginia and broader society through excellence in student-centered educational programs, research and scholarship, the compassionate practice of nursing, and service to the public and the profession. This mission is responsive to changing healthcare needs and emerging national and state changes in technology and healthcare delivery and is enhanced by a supportive and open environment. The faculty’s educational effort is directed at providing high quality, student-centered programs of instruction at all levels which prepare superb professional nurses to meet basic healthcare needs; advance practiced nurses to address complex health needs; and enable doctorally educated nurses to advance nursing knowledge through research, to assist in the formulation of policies to improve health care, and to serve as faculty in higher degree programs. Unique characteristics of the state mandate that the healthcare needs of rural populations and vulnerable groups be a major focus of education, research, and service, including faculty practice.

The School of Nursing offers undergraduate, graduate, and post-master’s programs of study. The baccalaureate program (BSN) is available for high school graduates who aspire to a career in nursing (basic students) and to registered nurses (RN) who are licensed graduates of associate degree or diploma nursing programs seeking to continue their career development. In addition, a BS/BA to BSN program is available for the college graduate seeking a BSN.

The master of science in nursing (MSN) prepares graduates for advanced practice roles in rural primary health care. These roles include family nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, neonatal nurse practitioner, geriatric nurse practitioner, women’s health nurse practitioner, and nursing leadership.

Post-graduate nurse practitioner certification programs in these role specialties are available for those who already have an MSN. The RN to MSN program also has these role specialties available.

The doctor of nursing practice (DNP) prepares advanced practice nurses who will practice at the highest level of professional nursing and will advance the application of nursing knowledge for the purpose of improving healthcare for diverse populations.

The doctor of philosophy in nursing (PhD) prepares nurse scholars/scientists for roles in research, teaching and service. The program prepares graduates who will contribute to the body of nursing knowledge, educate the next generation, and lead, ultimately impacting health policy, improving health, and reducing disparity.

Accreditation

Initial accreditation was received with graduation of the first class in 1964. The baccalaureate program in nursing is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, a national accrediting agency.

Fees, Expenses, Housing, Transportation, and Immunization

Students enrolling at the Morgantown campus pay fees which are detailed at http://adm.wvu.edu/home/cost_of_attendance. Special fees and deposits are also required. Students enrolling at other sites pay the fees shown in the catalog for that site. Fees are subject to change without notice. Students’ expenses vary according to the course of study and individual needs. Information concerning financial assistance, application forms, and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form may be obtained from the financial aid website at http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/fin/ or by contacting the HSC Financial Aid Office, PO Box 9810, Morgantown, WV 26506-9810; telephone (304) 293-3706 (toll free) or 1-800-344-WVU1.

The University Housing and Residence Life Office, telephone (304) 293-4491, provides information concerning university-owned housing. The Student Life Office in E. Moore Hall, telephone (304) 293-5611, provides information concerning privately owned, off-campus housing.

Students are expected to provide their own transportation, equipment, and instruments for the clinical courses. Some clinical experiences require travel in a multi-county area.

Proof of specific immunizations is required for all health sciences students. Students in the master of science in nursing program must undergo a criminal background check prior to clinical courses. Felony convictions and serious misdemeanors may preclude participation in the clinical courses. This could, in turn, prevent the completion of course requirements and completion of the nursing program.
Scholarships
The School of Nursing offers several scholarships. These scholarships are administered by the Health Science Center Financial Aid Office and require completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form in order to be considered for financial aid. Most School of Nursing scholarships are available only to students already admitted to the School of Nursing and are awarded each April for the following academic year. However, there are a limited number of scholarships for which students may apply before admission. Further information is provided on the School of Nursing website: http://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/Employment/Home/Scholarship-Opportunities.

Additional Information
Visit the School of Nursing website at http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son. Call the WVU school of Nursing Office of Student Services at 1-866-WVUNURS or (304) 293-1386. Write to WVU School of Nursing at PO Box 9600, Morgantown, WV 26506-9600

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• Dorothy Johnson - Ed.D. (West Virginia University)
• Kathleen Marsland - M.S. (University of Colorado)

COURSES

NSG 522. Culture and Health. 3 Hours.
Healthcare is encountering increasing cultural diversity. By identifying cultural behaviors, beliefs, and meaning of health in diverse cultural contexts, students will become more culturally proficient in delivering care.

NSG 593A-Z. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

NSG 610. Leadership in Health Care. 3 Hours.
PR or CONC: NSG 622 and NSG 623. Critical analysis of leadership frameworks, values and beliefs, and application of skills in the practice setting.

NSG 611. System Based Decision Making. 2 Hours.
PR or CONC: NSG 622 and NSG 623. Decision making grounded in an understanding of the organization as an open living system.
NSG 612. Leading Health System Change. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 610 and NSG 611. Developing system-based change management critical to advanced nursing in various settings, including selection training, and support of effective teams and workgroups.

NSG 613. Managing Health Care Resources. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 622 and NSG 623. Management of financial and human resources to promote professional practice and organizational growth within organizational financial constraints.

NSG 614. Health Care Informatics. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 627. Explore technologies to improve health care practices and learn to utilize technology for outcomes management.

NSG 615. Program Planning/Evaluation. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 613. Health care program planning, strategies for program implementation, and program evaluation techniques.

NSG 617. Leadership Practicum 1. 2-5 Hours.
PR or CONC: NSG 615. Supervised practicum designed to apply healthcare leadership principles to practice. Students participate in nursing leadership and administrative activities in a selected healthcare setting.

NSG 618. Leadership Practicum 2. 2-5 Hours.
PR: NSG 617. Supervised practicum designed to build on initial application of healthcare leadership principles. Students participate in leadership and administrative activities in a selected health care setting.

NSG 622. Theory & Disciplined Reasoning. 3 Hours.
Introduction to the theoretical foundations of the discipline of nursing as a basis for applying critical thinking skills to the development of a conceptual framework for nursing.

NSG 623. Concepts of Advanced Nursing. 2 Hours.
PR or Conc: NSG 622. Exploration, analysis, and evaluation of concepts, theories, and research guiding the advanced practice of nursing. Learning activities emphasize advanced practice role.

NSG 624. Advanced Pathophysiology. 4 Hours.
Theoretical basis of pathophysiological changes in acute and chronic illness confronted in primary care across lifespan. This course lays the foundation for subsequent courses in diagnosis, management, and therapeutic interventions.

NSG 626. Lifespan Health Promotion. 2 Hours.
An in-depth study of theoretical foundations, epidemiological principles, and advanced practice strategies for the promotion of health and prevention of disease across the life-span.

NSG 627. Research/Systematic Analysis. 5 Hours.
PR: NSG 622. An overview of research methods, evidence and epidemiological and statistical measures used in advanced practice nursing.

NSG 628. Health Policy/Finance/Ethics. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 622. Study of how health policy, the organization and financing of health care, and ethical principles shape professional practice.

NSG 629. Advanced Practice/Families. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 622 and NSG 623 and NSG 624 and NSG 626 and NSG 627. Exploration and analysis of family theories, assessments, and interventions applicable to the advanced practice of nursing.

NSG 631. Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 624. Examination of the relationship between pharmacologic principles and the selection of pharmacologic agents in altered health states across the lifespan. This course lays the foundation of subsequent courses in diagnosis, management, and therapeutic interventions.

NSG 632. Advanced Assessment. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 622 and NSG 623 and NSG 624. Preparation for the conduct of advance health assessment of patients. Diagnostic reasoning is emphasized as the student collects and analyzes data obtained from the patient history, physical examination, and diagnostic procedures.

NSG 633. Primary Care: Rural Families 1. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 622 and NSG 623 and NSG 624 and NSG 626, and NSG 631 and NSG 632. Introduction to the domains and competencies of the advanced practice nursing role that are fundamental to primary health care of the rural family unit.

NSG 634. Primary Care: Rural Families 2. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 633. Further development of the domains and competencies of the advanced practice nursing role introduced in NSG 633 that are fundamental to primary health care of the rural family unit.

NSG 635. Rural Family Hlth Practicum 1. 2-5 Hours.
PR or Conc: NSG 634. Supervised practicum designed to apply theory- and evidence-based advanced practice nursing. Students develop the advanced practice role as they manage health care and participate in service learning.

NSG 636. Rural Family Hlth Practicum 2. 4-5 Hours.
PR: NSG 635. Supervised practicum that builds upon NSG 635 and focuses on the application of theory- and evidence-based advanced nursing practice. With supervision, students manage health care and participate on interdisciplinary terms.
NSG 644. Pediatric Primary Care 2. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 647. Further acquisition of knowledge and skills central to the assessment of health status, diagnosis, treatment and evaluation of children in the primary care setting.

NSG 645. Pediatric Practicum 1. 5 Hours.
PR or CONC: NSG 644. Supervised practicum designed to facilitate the student’s competency in the delivery of primary health care to children.

NSG 646. Pediatric Practicum 2. 5 Hours.
PR: NSG 645. Supervised practicum designed to advance the student’s competency in the delivery of primary health care to children.

NSG 647. Assessment/Pediatric Care 1. 5 Hours.
PR: NSG 622 and NSG 623 and NSG 624 and NSG 627. An Introduction to the knowledge and skills basic to the assessment of health status, diagnosis, and evaluation of children in the primary care setting.

NSG 654. Neonatal Pathophysiology. 4 Hours.
An introduction to the scientific foundations underlying processes contributing to health/illness states in neonates. Principles from genetics, embryology, and developmental physiology lay the foundation for subsequent courses in assessment, diagnosis and management.

NSG 655. Neonatal Health Promotion. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 622. Review of practices and services that contribute to healthy outcomes for sick and well neonates with focus on health promotion, disease prevention, and maintenance of function in the context of critical care and primary care.

NSG 656. Current Issues in Aging. 2 Hours.
An overview of contemporary gerontology that offers a multidisciplinary approach to providing services to older people in the United States.

NSG 657. Adv Assessment Older Adults. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 624. Preparation for the conduct of advanced health assessment of older adults. Diagnostic reasoning is emphasized as the student collects and analyzes data obtained from the patient history, physical examination, and diagnostic procedures.

NSG 658. Geriatric Primary Care 1. 2.3 Hours.
PR: NSG 631 and NSG 657. Study of constellation of symptoms in the older adult that may be manifestations of other health problems.

NSG 659. Geriatric Primary Care 2. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 657 and NSG 658. Study of common diseases and disorders seen in the older adult. An integration of advanced practice skills and role competencies in the care of older individuals and their families is emphasized.

NSG 660. Women’s Reproductive Health. 2 Hours.
PR: Graduate status or permission. This course focuses on fertility control, reproductive health, menopause, and health promotion activities for women.

NSG 663. Neonatal Assessment/Care 1. 5 Hours.
PR: NSG 622 and NSG 623 and NSG 654 and PR or CONC: NSG 655. Preparation for conducting advanced assessment of neonates/young infants. Diagnostic reasoning is emphasized through collecting and analyzing data obtained from patient history, physical examination, and diagnostic procedures.

NSG 664. Neonatal Care 2. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 663 and NSG 631. This course focuses on the management of common problems and conditions in neonates.

NSG 665. Neonatal Practicum 1. 5 Hours.
PR: NSG 631 and PR or CONC: NSG 664. This supervised practicum is designed to facilitate the student’s competency in the delivery of care to infant populations.

NSG 666. Neonatal Practicum 2. 5 Hours.
PR: NSG 665. This supervised practicum is designed to facilitate the student’s competency in the delivery of care to infant populations.

NSG 670. Curriculum in Nursing. 3 Hours.
A review of contemporary theory-based determinants of curriculum development in nursing, including analysis and evaluation of curricula for nursing education.

NSG 671. Clinical Practicum-Educators. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 635. Implementation of theory-based advanced nursing practice in an area of student’s clinical interest/expertise. Student develops the advanced practice role with a select population of clients and families.

NSG 672. Education Practicum. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 674. Guided teaching experience under the supervision of an experienced faculty member that allows the student to function in the role of nurse educator in classroom and clinical settings.

NSG 674. Teaching in Nursing. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 670. A general methods course involving the principles of instruction in didactic and clinical nursing education including analysis of course planning, teaching methods, and evaluation of student outcomes.

NSG 675. Geriatric Practicum 1. 2-5 Hours.
NSG 676. Geriatric Practicum 2. 4-5 Hours.
PR: NSG 675. Supervised practicum that focuses on evidence-based advanced practice in a variety of settings. The students, with supervision, will manage health care of geriatric clients and their families and participate on interdisciplinary teams.

NSG 683. Primary Care: Women/Girls 1. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 622, NSG 623, NSG 624, NSG 626, NSG 631 and NSG 632. Introduction to the domains and competencies of the advanced practice nursing role that are fundamental to primary health care of women and girls.

NSG 684. Primary Care: Women/Girls 2. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 683. Further development of the domains and competencies of the advanced practice nursing role introduced in NSG 683 that are fundamental to primary health care of the rural family unit.

NSG 685. Clinical Scholarship. 1 Hour.
Co-Req: NSG 635 (For FNP track) or NSG 645 (For PNP track). Knowledge dissemination within the advanced practice role using disciplined reasoning and systematic inquiry to examine and incorporate evidence-based strategies in the caring/healing process.

NSG 686. WHNP Practicum 1. 2-5 Hours.
PR or CONC: NSG 684. Supervised practicum designed to apply theory- and evidence- based advanced practice nursing. Students develop the advanced practice role as they manage health care and participate in service learning.

NSG 687. WHNP Practicum 2. 4-5 Hours.

NSG 691A-Z. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

NSG 693A-Z. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

NSG 695. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

NSG 697. Research. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper, or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation guided by a student-graduate faculty contact based on the course objectives and culminating in a written product. (Grading will be S/U.).

NSG 702. Population Health Promotion. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 707. Provides a foundation for analysis of clinical prevention and population health programs or individuals, aggregates, and populations.

NSG 703. Theory of Practice. 3 Hours.
Provides an understanding of the scientific underpinnings of the application of theory to health care at the highest level of advanced nursing practice.

NSG 704. Health Care Leadership. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 711. Critical analysis of leadership in the health care setting with development of skills needed to organize care and lead practice change.

NSG 707. Evidence Based Practice. 3 Hours.
PR or CONC: NSG 703. Prepares the DNP student to translate research into practice, evaluate practice guidelines to improve health care practices and outcomes, and to participate in collaborative research.

NSG 708. DNP Role Seminar. 2 Hours.
PR: Admission to the DNP program. Provides an understanding of the Doctor of Nursing Practice role at the highest level of nursing practice.

NSG 709. Health Care Informatics. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 707. Explore information technologies used in acute and outpatient health settings and describe methods of utilization of technology for practice improvement and patient outcomes management.

NSG 710. Health Policy/Resource Mangmnt. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 711. The foundation for leadership in health policy development, implementation, and evaluation, with a focus on advocacy for nursing, social justice, and equity. Financial resource management for nursing leadership and policy/ program implementation.

NSG 711. Health Care Focus. 3 Hours.
Provides for the development of knowledge and skills relative to the state of the science in a particular area of clinical practice.

NSG 713. DNP Role Application. 1 Hour.
PR or CONC: NSG 742. Integration of Doctor of Nursing practice role competencies at the highest level of nursing practice.

NSG 717. Organization and Leadership. 3 Hours.
Provides a foundation for developing organizational and systems leadership skills critical to clinical care and health outcomes. Knowledge will help students to promote patient safety and excellence in health care organizations.

NSG 719. Health Care Policy. 3 Hours.
Provides a foundation for influencing, developing, implementing, and evaluating health care policies and legislation pertinent to issues in health care such as ethics, safety, costs, access, and quality.
NSG 724. Health Research Statistics 1. 3 Hours.
This course provides development of statistical knowledge and skills needed for quantitative health research using SPSS. Topics include descriptive statistics, probability, hypothesis testing, analysis of variance, chi-squared testing, linear regression, and logistic regression.

NSG 725. Health Research Statistics 2. 3 Hours.
This course continues the development of statistical knowledge and skills needed for quantitative health research using SPSS, including nonparametric testing, advanced regression topics and diagnostics, ANCOVA, SPSS syntax, classification, and factor, survival and power analyses.

NSG 727. Contemporary Nursing Science. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 728 and PR or CONC: NSG 729. Focus is on an analysis of the state of the science for phenomenon for study. Emphasis is placed on the application of the particular phenomenon to a population of interest.

NSG 728. Theoretical Basis of Nursing. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 722. This course builds on philosophical basis of nursing. Discovery and verification of scientific knowledge are addressed by focusing on theory development. Methodologies include concept analysis and evaluation of middle-range theories of nursing and related sciences.

NSG 729. Quantitative Research Methods. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 724 and NSG 725. Quantitative methods and measurement relevant to conducting research in nursing are studied.

NSG 730. Principles of Measurement. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 727 and NSG 728. The role of measurement in nursing research is studied. Measurement in the areas of attitudes, personality, competence, development, and group qualities is emphasized. Instrument development and reliability/validity issues are also discussed.

NSG 731. Qualitative Research Methods. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 727 and NSG 728. An exploration of the philosophical foundation and methods of qualitative inquiry. Research designs, ethical issues, rigor, integrity, data collection, interpretation, and representation are studied in depth.

NSG 732. Seminar in Nursing Scholarship. 2 Hours.
PR: Admission to the PhD program. This course socializes students to clinical scholarship in preparation for the conduct of independent research and for future roles as nurse scholars and nurse scientists.

NSG 733. Research Grant Development. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 781. Analysis of the grant-writing process, including current federal application formats, provides students with the background to complete a submittable grant proposal in their own area of research.

NSG 734. Use of Data. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 726 and NSG 729. This course focuses on use of the following data bases: clinical, financial, health services, nursing, local, state, and national. The uses of existing data in clinical and policy decisions and in research will be explored.

NSG 735. Principles: Nursing Education. 3 Hours.
PR: EDP 700. This course examines the research base of educational strategies in nursing education in classroom and clinical settings. The course also examines external determinants on nursing curriculum, accreditation issues, and evaluation of nursing programs.

NSG 736. Advanced Health Policy/Ethics. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 728 and NSG 724 and NSG 732 and NSG 724 and NSG 735 and NSG 725 and NSG 704. Examination of ethical issues of research and current health policy.

NSG 737. Leadership. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 734. Through exploration of contemporary leadership theory and application to self, an authentic personal leadership style will be developed to enable the student to enact a leadership role in health care and/or education.

NSG 738. Issues In Nursing Scholarship. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 729, NSG 731, and NSG 737. Seminar focused on broad issues of ethics in the conduct of research and role acquisition of nurse scientist in academic, clinical, and health policy settings.

NSG 745. Clinical Immersion. 1-8 Hours.
PR: NSG 711. Provides for the mastery of clinical skills relative to the state of the science in a particular area of clinical practice.

NSG 760. DNP Clinical Project. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 711. Develop a scholarly initiative to improve practice system, or patient outcomes.

NSG 761. Clinical Project 1. 1 Hour.
PR: NSG 715 and NSG 716. Identifies a practice problem and connects the problem to existing knowledge and science.

NSG 762. Clinical Project 2. 1 Hour.
PR: NSG 761 and NSG 717 and NSG 718. Students design an initiative to address the practice problem identified in NSG 761 using the appropriate research methods and a variety of scientific principles.

NSG 763. DNP Capstone. 1-6 Hours.
PR: NSG 762. Project implementation using leadership skills to create and evaluate change relative to a practice problem. Analyze relationship of project to practice and policy.
NSG 768. Prospectus Development. 1-6 Hours.
Supervised experiences in planning the dissertation research project, developing the chapters for the prospectus, and preparing the proposal document for review by committee members.

NSG 769. Faculty Career Development. 1 Hour.
Supervised experiences in searching for available positions, preparing and submitting application materials, participating in campus interviews, and planning a successful future career.

NSG 781. Research Mentorship. 1-3 Hours.
PR: NSG 729. In this guided practicum, the student’s research skills are developed and cultivated through participation in the mentorship process with an experienced researcher (the chairperson or his/her designee).

NSG 783. Dissertation Seminar. 1 Hour.
PR: NSG 729. This seminar provides an opportunity for continued knowledge synthesis related to the selected topic of research. Students will participate in proposal presentation and critique. The expectation is a National Research Service Award Predoctoral Fellowship Application.

NSG 791A-Z. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

NSG 792A-Z. Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.
Directed study, reading, and/or research.

NSG 793A-Z. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

NSG 794A-Z. Seminar. 1-6 Hours.
Special seminars arranged for advanced graduate students.

NSG 795. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

NSG 796. Graduate Seminar. 1 Hour.
PR: Consent. Each graduate student will present at least one seminar to the assembled faculty and graduate student body of his or her program.

NSG 797. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper, or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading will be S/U).

NSG 798. Dissertation. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. This is an optional course for programs that wish to provide formal supervision during the writing of student reports (6978), or dissertations (798). Grading is normal.

NSG 799. Graduate Colloquium. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. For graduate students not seeking coursework credit but who wish to meet residency requirements, use the University’s facilities, and participate in its academic and cultural programs. Note: Graduate students who are not actively involved in coursework or research are entitled, through enrollment in their department’s 699/799 Graduate Colloquium to consult with graduate faculty, participate in both formal and informal academic activities sponsored by their program, and retain all of the rights and privileges of duly enrolled students. Grading is P/F; colloquium credit may not be counted against credit requirements for masters programs. Registration for one credit of 699/799 graduate colloquium satisfies the University requirement of registration in the semester in which graduation occurs.