The Doctor of Nursing Practice Program (DNP) prepares graduates for the specialty areas of executive leadership, nurse anesthesia, and nurse practitioner. The DNP Program provides the student with the opportunity to strengthen one’s clinical skills by gaining intensive experiences in one’s specialty area of practice, enhance the understanding of the theoretical underpinnings that supports one’s specialty area of practice, and broaden one’s perspective of health care systems and delivery models from a Christian worldview.

The DNP Program is designed as a full-time cohort-based program that begins the fall of each year.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Doctor of Nursing Practice is to prepare experts in specialized advanced practice with a Christ-centered focus.

DNP Program Goals

1. To provide doctoral nursing education that builds on the foundational education of the registered nurse.
2. To prepare the graduate for enhanced knowledge and skills in a specialized area of practice.
3. To develop the graduate as a leader of one’s specialty area of practice implementing the Christian worldview.

DNP Expected Student Outcomes

The graduate of the DNP will be able to:
• demonstrate expertise in an area of specialized advanced nursing practice
• integrate biosciences, education, research, business, and technology into advanced nursing practice within the Christian worldview
• formulate organizational and systems components for leadership and quality improvement toward enhancing patient outcomes
• promote transformation of health care through interprofessional collaboration, policy development and technology utilization within an area of specialized advanced nursing practice
• evaluate outcomes of evidence-based research and design appropriate interventions for specialized areas of advanced nursing practice toward the improvement of the health of individuals, aggregates, and populations.

Program Admission Requirements for All Tracks

1. Completed application with application fee of $50
2. Cumulative Graduate GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
3. Official transcript(s) from all undergraduate and graduate course work attempted
4. Current unencumbered RN and APN licensure (if applicable) in state of residence
5. Eligible for licensure as registered nurse and APN (if applicable) in Tennessee
6. Interview with the Nursing Graduate Admissions Selection Committee
7. International students must complete TOEFL with WES evaluations of transcripts
8. Three letters of professional/academic reference specifying the applicant’s capabilities for graduate study to include one letter of reference from the current supervisor
9. Statement of professional goals to include:
   • Your reasons for seeking a clinical doctorate
   • Your plans to use this degree to transform your practice and the profession of nursing
   • A problem statement reflective of an issue in your practice you have identified as an opportunity for a practice inquiry project
   • How you have prepared for success in this program
10. Submission of Curriculum Vitae

Additional requirement for the RN to DNP and BSN to DNP Nurse Practitioner track includes a Science GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale, defined as Anatomy and Physiology 1 and 2, and Statistics is preferred.

Additional requirements for the CRNA-DNP track include a current unencumbered RN and CRNA license in state of residence and students will be required to have 1,000 clinical hours post BSN degree.

Additional requirements for the RN to BSN or BSN to DNP Nurse Anesthesia tracks include:
1. At least one year of critical care experience as an RN, preferably within the last year
2. Eligible for RN licensure in TN, KY, and MS
3. Science GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale; defined as Anatomy and Physiology 1 and 2, and statistics
4. CCRN preferred
5. Experience as a preceptor and/or charge nurse preferred
6. Leadership within the ICU or place of employment with professional or clinical development projects preferred, such as:
   • Policy development
   • Practice change initiatives
   • Evidence-based practice initiatives
   • Instructor in BLS/ACLS/PALS
7. If applicant has been dismissed from or withdrawn from a nurse anesthesia program, he or she must provide a letter from the previous program director addressing this dismissal/withdrawal.

RN to DNP Without Previously Earned Bachelor’s Degree; Nurse Practitioner and Executive Leadership Tracks Only
1. Applicants must complete the following undergraduate courses.
   - Anatomy and Physiology 1 and 2 – 8 hrs.
   - Microbiology – 3 or 4 hrs.
   - Pathophysiology – 3 hrs.
   - Christian Studies – 6 hrs.
   - English Composition 1 and 2 – 6 hrs.
   - Social Science – 9 hrs.
   - Humanities – 9 hrs.
2. When these courses are completed, the applicant will notify the track coordinator no later than December 31 prior to the year they wish to start.
3. The following undergraduate nursing courses must be completed with a grade of “B” or above by May 31st of the year the applicant plans to be considered for the DNP cohort. The nursing courses may be in progress when the applicant notifies the coordinator of their readiness to be considered for the DNP applicant pool.
   - NUR 306 Scientific Writing
   - NUR 330 Research

The RN to DNP does not award a BSN or MSN
Acceptance to the RN to DNP program does not guarantee acceptance to any DNP track. Applicants who are not selected to progress to the DNP cohort will be given the opportunity to enter the RN to BSN program.

Students entering the BSN to DNP program with a previously earned MSN may be awarded credit above the 9 hours for the following courses upon evaluation of transcript: NUR 515, NUR 533, NUR 559, NUR 544, BIO 500, NUR 622

Students admitted to the program must have and maintain while in the program:
1. Current CPR certification for nurse anesthesia, nurse practitioner, and Executive Leadership students
2. Evidence of Hepatitis B, MMR, and tetanus vaccination
3. Varicella titer showing active immunity
4. Freedom from tuberculosis as evidenced by a negative PPD or health provider examination
5. Current ACLS and PALS certifications (nurse anesthesia only)
6. Health insurance

Conditional Admission
Applicants who do not meet the regular admission requirements to the DNP program may be admitted conditionally at the discretion of the DNP Graduate Admissions Committee. Conditional admission will require contractual agreement between the applicant and the Graduate Admissions Committee. The contract will specify the conditions and deadlines that must be met to matriculate to the regular DNP program.

Transfer of Credit
Graduate credit for courses earned at a regionally accredited college or university or at a foreign college or university may be transferred to Union University if the courses are essentially the same as those required in the DNP program. The maximum number of semester hours that may be transferred to Union University and applied to the DNP degree is nine, upon review of transcripts.

Applicants may take a maximum of 2 DNP core courses prior to being enrolled in their respective DNP track cohort. Enrollment in core nursing courses does not guarantee acceptance into a specific track.

No grade less than “B” may be transferred. Courses taken more than five years before beginning the DNP program at Union University will be considered on an individual basis.
**Academic Standards, Requirements for Progression, Probation, and Dismissal**

After completion of 9 graduate hours at Union University, a graduate student whose cumulative GPA from courses taken at Union University for graduate credit is below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. A student placed on academic probation has one semester to increase his or her GPA to 3.0 or greater to be removed from a probationary status.

If the student fails to increase his or her GPA to 3.0 or greater during the following semester, the student will be dismissed from the DNP Program. Students must make a grade of B or higher in all track-specific courses. No more than 2 Cs are allowed in the remaining courses in order to continue in the program. Students will also be dismissed if they receive an “F” (i.e. any grade below a “C”) in any course.

**Financial Information**

**Tuition Rates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>RN to DNP tuition</th>
<th>BSN to DNP tuition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>$420/credit hour</td>
<td>$14,600/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Leadership</td>
<td>$420/credit hour</td>
<td>$13,000/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Anesthesia</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BSN to DNP tuition:
- Nurse Practitioner: $14,600/year (F, S, Su)
- Executive Leadership: $13,000/year (F, S, Su)
- Nurse Anesthesia: $27,000/year (F, S, Su)
- Post-master’s DNP: all tracks: $840/credit hour

**Federal Stafford Loan**

The Stafford loan application process will require that you:
1. Complete and forward the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to the federal government with Union University’s code of 003528.
2. Complete a Union Financial Aid Application and a Stafford Master Promissory Note and forward to the Union University Student Financial Planning Office.
3. For more information, contact the Student Financial Planning Office at 731-661-5015.

If Federal Stafford loan is not approved and available at the time of registration, the student must assume the cost by paying in full by check, cash, credit card, or FACTS.

**Employer Tuition Reimbursement**

1. The student is responsible for providing information to the university regarding his/her employer’s policies for reimbursement.
2. If the employer reimburses the student directly, the student must pay the university in full at the time of registration.
3. If the employer provides partial reimbursement directly to the university, the student must pay his/her portion of tuition at the time of registration.
4. The university will provide any required information to an employer when requested by the student.

**Acceptance Deposits**

A $1,000 tuition deposit is required. These deposits are non-refundable if the student elects not to enroll. Applicants accepted on an “alternative” basis will receive a full refund if status is not changed to “accepted” by the first day of class.
Graduation Requirements
1. Completion of the course work within each specified track.
2. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the required course of study.
3. File an application for graduation with the Graduate Nursing Office by the published deadline.
4. Pay in full the student's account in the Business Office.
5. Discharge all other obligations (fines, credentials, fees, etc.) at the University.

Degree Requirements

BSN to DNP Core for all tracks (49 hours)
1. NUR 515, 533, 559
2. NUR 710, 705, 715, 720, 725, 730, 745, 728
3. NUR 793, 791, 794, 735,738,739

BSN to DNP Advanced Practice Core for NPs and CRNAs (8 hours)
1. BIO 500
2. NUR 544, 622

BSN to DNP Executive Leadership (68 hours)
1. Complete the BSN to DNP core for all tracks (above)
2. Specialty: NUR 525, 593, 528, 693A, 695B, 535, 572, 615

BSN to DNP Nurse Practitioner (76 hours)
1. Complete the BSN to DNP core for all tracks (above)
2. Complete the Advanced Practice Core (above)
3. Specialty for FNPs: NUR 617, 600, 547, 639, 650
4. Specialty for PNPs: NUR 627C, 600, 557C, 638C, 650
5. Specialty for Adult/Geriatric NPs: NUR 627A, 600, 557A, 638A, 650
6. Specialty for Psychiatric Mental Health: NUR 566, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654

BSN to DNP for Nurse Anesthesia (99 hours)
1. Complete the BSN to DNP core for all tracks (above)
2. Complete the Advanced Practice Core for NPs and CRNAs (above)
3. Specialty: BIO 505/507, BIO 509; NUR 519, 609, 532, 534, 524, 611, 612, 554, 613, 614, 574, 691

CRNA-DNP for Licensed CRNAs with the BSN (46 hours)
1. Complete the BSN to DNP core for all tracks (above); except for NUR 728 which is not required for this track

Post-Master's DNP (38 hours)
1. NUR 710, 705, 715, 720, 725, 730, 745
2. NUR 793, 791, 794, 735,738,739

DNP: Executive Leadership Track
The ability to serve as an executive leader within the healthcare setting requires a breadth of knowledge and skills that encompasses several disciplines. To prepare future nursing leaders for these high profile positions within healthcare organizations or academic institutions, this track offers the nurse the opportunity to serve alongside leaders of health care or academic institutions in gaining the knowledge, skills, and wisdom needed to lead health care institutions in the future. The student will strengthen their understanding of the profession of nursing while gaining business principles to support the future leadership role. An application deadline of March 1 is noted for priority acceptance into this track that begins in the fall of each year. A 36-month BSN to DNP option is available, as well as a five semester Post-Master's option and an eight-semester part-time Post-Master's option.

DNP: Nurse Anesthesia Track
As the acuity level of the surgical patients increase and the complexity of the practice continues to demand more of the nurse anesthetist, additional knowledge and skills are being required to serve as a leader in both the operating room suite and within one's practice. To address these growing demands upon the nurse anesthetist, a 36-month BSN to DNP option for students who are not CRNAs is also available, with an application deadline of October 15. In addition, a 5-semester Post-Master's DNP Program is available to enhance your effectiveness as a practitioner and leader in the profession of nurse anesthesia. An application deadline of March 1 is noted for priority acceptance into this track that begins in the fall of each year. A 36-month CRNA-DNP option is also available for licensed CRNAs who do not currently hold a Master's degree.

DNP: Nurse Practitioner Tracks
The practice environment of a nurse practitioner is constantly changing. These changes are based on the increasing complexity of patient care and evolving practice issues of the health care system. To address the increasing complexity of patient care and evolving practice issues, a 5-semester Post-Master's DNP Program is available to enhance your effectiveness as a health care leader in the profession as a nurse practitioner. An application deadline of March 1 is noted for priority acceptance into this track that begins in the fall of each year. A 36-month BSN to DNP option for students who are not nurse practitioners is also available, with an application deadline of January 15.
517. Educational Strategies in Advanced Nursing Practice (3)
The purpose of this course is to examine models and methods of teaching and learning. Bio-psychosocial, spiritual, cultural influences that affect learning will be incorporated. The nursing process will be used as a framework for an outcome based teaching-learning session.

519. Professional Aspects of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (3)
An introduction to the role of the nurse anesthetist as an advanced practice nurse. The course presents the Christian worldview of nurse anesthesia, the historical development of anesthesia, anesthesia as a specialty of nursing, the role of the nurse anesthetist within the context of the health care system, legal aspects of anesthesia practice, current practice and health policy issues, the personal and professional impact of substance abuse, the role of professional organizations of nurse anesthesia.

523. Clinical Prevention and Population Health in Advanced Nursing Practice (2)
This course is designed to prepare the student to apply evidence-based principles of wellness, disease prevention, and health risk in individuals, families, communities, and aggregate/clinical populations. The course also focuses on the study of culturally appropriate and holistic professional nursing care of persons in this pluralistic global society. Emphasis is placed on sensitivity to and respect for cultural diversity, communication, critical thinking, research, and theories of intercultural nursing.

524. Anesthesia Techniques (3)
This course introduces the ability of the student nurse anesthetist to integrate foundational anesthesia and scientific knowledge with learned clinical skills.

525. Introduction to Administrative Nursing Practice (3)
This course will integrate information about delivery systems, organizational mission, structure, culture, personnel motivation, management and networking. The focus will be on exploring these concepts from a nursing perspective and a wholistic Christian worldview.

526. Theory and Ethics for Advanced Nursing Practice (2)
This course explores central ethical and bioethical questions in nursing and health care, critiques and applies nursing theory to the advanced practice nursing role in the delivery of equitable and culturally relevant health care.

528. Nursing Administration and the Law (3)
A general background to the elements and characteristics of health, administrative, criminal, civil law and the implications for nurse practicing in an administrative role looking at malpractice, risk management, tort law and tort reform, OSHA regulations, construction, organizational management, laws affecting subsidiary corporations and tax law. Emphasis will be placed on administration of human resources including labor and legal issues, collective bargaining, labor laws, and the design of effective policies and procedures to reflect these laws.
529. Healthcare and Missions (3)
This course affords the graduate nursing student the opportunity to be involved in the development and implementation of a short-term healthcare mission trip by serving in a transcultural healthcare setting. The educational service provided in the transcultural healthcare setting will be based on the student’s nursing expertise and guided by the presence of a faculty member.

532. Anesthesia Pharmacology (3)
An extensive examination of the pharmacological principles associated with the administration of anesthetic agents. An understanding of the physiological impact on the body in relation to the absorptive, metabolic, and elimination processes of each anesthetic agent will be examined.

533. Advanced Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice (3)
Prerequisite: NUR 515
This course emphasizes analysis and interpretation of clinical research and evidence-based practice, preparing the student to use translational science in clinical decision making to improve patient outcomes. Specific aspects of the research process, quantitative and qualitative research, and systematic reviews will be studied.

534. Advanced Principles in Anesthesiology (3)
This course builds on the basic sciences in examining the pathophysiology of major organ systems (e.g., cardiothoracic, hepatic, endocrine, and pulmonary) that are impacted by the administration of anesthetics.

535. Nursing Quality Management (3)
Prerequisite: NUR 525.
This course examines the quality of health care in relationship to nursing care delivery. It will include the concepts and information systems that are necessary in the identification, tracking, and evaluation of quality indicators. Emphasis is placed on terminology and information systems specific to nursing administration and quality.

537. Nursing Education Practicum (2)
Clinical introduction to the nurse educator practical experience. It involves application of educational theories and wholistic nursing practice.

538. Clinical Strategies for Nurse Educators (3)
Prerequisites: NUR 544, and BIO 500.
An overview of clinical management of patients throughout the lifespan. Opportunities are provided for students to integrate theory, research and evidence-based practice in a specialized clinical setting under the direction of a preceptor with specialty expertise.

544. Advanced Health Assessment (3)
The course focuses on advanced health/physical assessment of the client where the client is defined as the individual and includes the individual's context within the family and/or community. Focus of the course is on comprehensive history, physical/psychological assessment, pathophysiology, and health promotion strategies incorporating the individual's cultural and developmental variations across the lifespan.

545. Health Systems and Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (2)
This course provides an overview of organization concepts, healthcare economic theory, health systems, communication and other leadership principles needed by the nurse in advanced practice. Emphasis is on the foundational skills and competencies needed by the master's prepared nurse.

547. Primary Care of the Family: Health Promotion (4)
Prerequisite: BIO 500. Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622.
The purpose of this course is to enhance knowledge and skill in diagnostic reasoning, advanced health assessment, health promotion, health maintenance and disease prevention with regard to the family. Students will explore family concepts and theories relevant to advanced nursing practice and research. Special emphasis will be placed on meeting goals and objectives of Healthy People 2020. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in the community for students to develop advanced practice interventions to promote health and disease throughout the lifespan.

547. Primary Care of the Family: Health Promotion (4)
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548. Organizational Behavior and Leadership (3)
This course provides an overview of organizational concepts, theories, perspectives, and research relevant to nursing administration, patient care delivery systems, and nursing practice organization. Emphasis is on management principles and organizational processes applicable to quality work environments and the influence of the external and internal environment on these organizations, and the role and relationship of nurse leaders to the nursing practice environment and to the greater organization.

554. Clinical Practicum I (1)
An introduction to the clinical practice of nurse anesthesia to begin the development of fundamental skills necessary to provide a safe and effective anesthetic. Critical thinking skills will be applied and developed through the synthesis of knowledge acquired from prior didactic coursework and simulation experiences. Pass/Fail grading.

557A. Primary Care of Adult/Geriatric Populations: Health Promotion (4)
557C. Primary Care of Children: Health Promotion (4)
Prerequisite: BIO 500; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622.
Toward enhancing knowledge and skill in diagnostic reasoning, advanced assessment, health promotion, health maintenance and disease prevention of adult/geriatric populations (A) and children (C) with regards to family environment, special emphasis will be placed on meeting goals and objectives of Healthy People 2020. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in the community for students to develop advanced practice interventions to promote health and disease prevention.

558. Transitions to Advanced Practice Nursing (2)
Prepares the student for transition from student role to Advanced Practice role; emphasis placed on professional topics such as reimbursement, licensure, credentialing, prescriptive privileges, interviewing for and securing employment, contract negotiation, and portfolio preparation. Also encompasses legal issues pertinent to the APN role.
559. Role Development and Collaborative Strategies in Advanced Nursing Practice (2)
The purpose of this course is to enhance the student’s knowledge of advanced nursing practice roles and interprofessional roles in healthcare delivery. Emphasis is on integrating philosophical inquiry, theory analysis, and translational research findings to improve healthcare outcomes for culturally diverse individuals and teams.

566. Models and Theories for Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing (2) F
This course focuses on conceptual models and theories related to the practice of psychiatric and mental health care. Concepts of development and individual functioning provide a theoretical basis for understanding the development of psychopathology and the selection of psychotherapeutic interventions across the lifespan.

572. Nursing Administration Residency (2)
Prerequisites: NUR 593, 693A, 695B
A practicum experience designed for synthesis of theory and practice where students develop, implement, and evaluate advanced practice leadership strategies in a health care systems area of focus. An understanding of systems structures, processes, and outcomes is gained through practical experiences, personal reflection, and seminar discussions. Graded Pass/Fail.

574. Clinical Practicum II (2)
The focus of this clinical is to solidify the process of implementing an organized, safe and effective approach for the administration of anesthesia for general types of surgical procedures. The student will assume increasing responsibility for the independent delivery of anesthesia care to the surgical patient. Clinical preceptors at the various institutions will provide direction and supervision based on required clinical experiences. Pass/Fail grading.

579. External Domestic Study Programs (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

580. Study Abroad Programs (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

585-586-587. Special Studies in Nursing (1-6)
Group studies which do not appear in the school course offerings. Content will be determined by need.

593. Nursing Administration Practicum I (1)
Experiential application of the concepts examined in Introduction to Administrative Nursing Practice in a workplace setting with a preceptor in nursing management. Pass/Fail.

598. Seminar (1-3)
A non-lecture research and discussion course. Course content will be determined by need. To be used at the discretion of the department.

600. Primary Care Provider Procedures (2)
Toward enhancing advanced practice skills in performing procedures such as casting, splinting, suturing, dermatologic procedures, and basic surgery techniques, the student will experience clinical presentations that highlight pathophysiologic processes and psychological needs of patients and families across the lifespan.

607. Educational Assessment and Evaluation Processes (3)
While focusing on the systematic processes of assessment of learners’ needs and methods of evaluation of educational outcomes, formative and summative methods of evaluation will be designed in relation to content as well as curricula of educational programs. In addition, methods of analysis and interpretation of data and uses of results are explored. Each aspect of the assessment and evaluation processes is used to guide future actions.

609. Basic Principles of Anesthesia (4)
Basic cognitive and psychomotor concepts associated with the safe and effective practice of nurse anesthesia are presented. The implication of these learned concepts will be addressed in relation to the preoperative, intraoperative, and/or postoperative surgical periods. The acquired information will serve as the foundation for the understanding of the advanced practice of nurse anesthesia.

611. Obstetrical Anesthesia: Perspectives of Anesthetic Care (2)
An intense examination of the practice of obstetrical anesthesia emphasizing normal maternal and fetal changes of pregnancy, abnormal pathophysiologic conditions of pregnancy, and anesthetic techniques and implications of obstetrical anesthesia.

612. Pediatric Anesthesia: Perspectives of Anesthetic Care (2)
This course is an in-depth examination of the practice of pediatric anesthesia. An emphasis will be placed on normal growth and development of the newborn through fourteen years of age, common pathophysiologic conditions of this age group, and anesthetic techniques and implications of pediatric anesthesia.

613. Cardiovascular/Pulmonary Anesthesia: Perspectives of Anesthetic Care (3)
An intense examination of the practice of intrathoracic anesthesia for adult surgical patients, this course will focus on pathophysiologic conditions and surgical procedures associated with the heart and pulmonary systems that may impact the delivery of anesthesia. Anesthetic implications and techniques will be presented based on the noted conditions.

614. Neurosurgical Anesthesia: Perspectives of Anesthetic Care (2)
An in-depth examination of the practice of neurosurgical anesthesia in the adult population with emphasis on common pathophysiologic conditions associated with neurological disorders. Anesthetic techniques and implications will be presented based on neurological conditions and surgical procedures.
615. Resource Management (3)
The management of resources in the health care environment. Focus is managing the revenue and expense aspects of the budget and the management of personnel. This course provides guidelines for professional self-assessment of financial management.

617. Primary Care of Family: Pediatric and Women's Health (4)
Prerequisite: BIO 500; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622. Designed to enhance knowledge and skills related to management of maternal child health care, this course emphasizes acute episodic and chronic conditions in the context of primary care. Management consists of identifying, monitoring, treating and maintaining health care problems in children and child-bearing women utilizing research and evidence-based practice. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in a variety of primary care settings.

622. Advanced Pharmacology (3)
This course is designed to expand the student's knowledge and understanding of pharmacotherapeutics and pharmacokinetics of broad categories of pharmacologic agents. The purpose of the course is to provide the student with pharmacologic knowledge and skills needed to assess, diagnose, and manage a client's health problems in a safe, high quality, and cost-effective manner across the lifespan. This course will also cover professional, legal and ethical issues pertinent to the prescription and monitoring of pharmacologic agents.

627A. Primary Care of Adult/Geriatric Populations: Acute Management (4)
627C. Primary Care of Children: Acute Management (4)
Prerequisite: NUR 544; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 622 and BIO 500. The purpose of this course is to develop advanced practice knowledge and skill in the accurate diagnosis and management of acute health care problems in adult/geriatric populations (A) and children (C) with consideration of the family environment. Management consists of identifying, monitoring and treating acute health care problems utilizing scientific research and evidence-based practice. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in various acute and community based settings.

638A. Primary Care of Adult/Geriatric Populations: Chronic Management (4)
638C. Primary Care of Children: Chronic Management (4)
Prerequisite: NUR 544; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 622 and BIO 500. The purpose of this course is to enhance advanced practice knowledge and skills in the diagnosis and management of chronic health care problems in adult/geriatric populations (A) and children (C) with consideration to the family environment. Management consists of identifying, monitoring, treating, and maintaining chronic health care problems utilizing principles of research and evidence-based practice. This course will also review theories and factors of chronic illness, content surrounding the process of referral and development of practice guidelines. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in community and hospital based settings.

639. Primary Care of Family: Acute and Chronic Management (4)
Prerequisite: BIO 500; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622. The purpose of this course is to enhance knowledge and skills in the diagnosis and management of chronic and acute health care problems in families. Management consists of identifying, monitoring, treating, and maintaining acute and chronic family based health care problems utilizing principles of research and evidence based practice. The student will review theories and factors of chronic illness within the context of the family. The process of referral and development of practice guidelines will also be discussed. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in community and hospital based settings.

642. Nursing Education Residency (2)
Culmination of the nurse educator clinical experience. It involves application of educational theories and wholistic nursing practice. Practice experiences are designed to synthesize knowledge and skills and to enable the advanced practice nurse to meet individual practice outcomes and career goals.

650. Specialty Focus Practicum (2)
Prerequisite: NUR 546A or 546C, and NUR 616; Corequisite: NUR 626A or 626C, and NUR 636A or 636C This clinical course will allow students to gain clinical experience in a specific population with the goal for the student to synthesize knowledge and skills gained in core and previous specialty courses and to apply knowledge in the clinical setting. Clinical experiences will be available in a wide variety of subspecialties such as neurology, nephrology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, cardiology, dermatology, oncology, pulmonology, orthopedics, and internal medicine. Graded Pass/Fail.

651. Mental Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning Across the Lifespan (4) S
Prerequisites: BIO 500, NUR 544
This course focuses on the assessment and diagnosis of mental health disorders across the lifespan. Advanced assessment techniques include observation, interviewing, as well as the appropriate use of a variety of screening tools and assessment guides and diagnostic data. Students are introduced to current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) criteria. Clinical experiences provide students with opportunities to integrate content in the care of patients across the lifespan.

652. Psychopharmacology Across the Lifespan (3) Su
Prerequisites: NUR 544, NUR 622
This course builds on advanced pharmacology with the introduction of neurobiologic, genetic, and environmental theories of mental health disorders. The course emphasizes evidence-based practice and research-based data in the use of medications for mental health disorders across the lifespan. The course focuses on safety, therapeutic outcomes, recognizing and managing side effects, and medication management as part of a comprehensive treatment plan. The course will also cover appropriate laboratory and other diagnostic data that impact medication selection.
653. Management of Acute and Chronic Mental Health Disorders: Children and Adolescents (4) Su
Prerequisites: NUR 544, NUR 622
Co-requisite: NUR 652
This course will examine the major psychopathologies in children and adolescents including epidemiology, cultural and spiritual beliefs, specific assessment issues and tools, as well as evidence-based therapies. Interventions include psychopharmacologic as well as psychotherapeutic approaches (including psychotherapy) and combinations of therapies in the care of children and adolescents with mental health disorders. The psychiatric and emotional health of children, adolescents and their parents/caretakers will be explored through developmental, interactional, behavioral, and psychobiological models. This course will also address health promotion and legal/ethical aspects in the treatment of children and adolescents. Clinical experiences will facilitate the implementation and evaluation of therapeutic interventions in a variety of clinical settings.

654. Management of Acute and Chronic Mental Health Disorders: Adult and Geriatric Populations (4) Su
Prerequisites: NUR 544, NUR 622
Co-requisite: NUR 652
This course will examine the major psychopathologies in children and adolescents including epidemiology, cultural and spiritual beliefs, specific assessment issues and tools, as well as evidence-based therapies. Interventions include psychopharmacologic as well as psychotherapeutic approaches (including psychotherapy) and combinations of therapies in the care of children and adolescents with mental health disorders. The psychiatric and emotional health of children, adolescents and their parents/caretakers will be explored through developmental, interactional, behavioral, and psychobiological models. This course will also address health promotion and legal/ethical aspects in the treatment of children and adolescents. Clinical experiences will facilitate the implementation and evaluation of therapeutic interventions in a variety of clinical settings.

655. Independent Study (1-4)
Individual research and study under the guidance of a graduate faculty member.

691. Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Residency (1)
This clinical course will expose the student to specialty types of anesthetic type management in the areas of obstetrics, pediatrics, cardiology, and neurology. In addition, the student will develop the understanding of complex anesthetic management through interaction with patient simulation.

693A. Nursing Administration Practicum II (2)
Prerequisite: NUR 593.
This course will integrate didactic material from previous courses with administrative practice. The focus is the dynamic combination of administrative theory, quality management, health care economics, organizational behavior, and information systems through mentoring and field experience. Emphasis will be placed on developing practice and decision-making skills that are excellence driven, Christ-centered, people-focused, and future-directed. Graded Pass/Fail.

695B. Nursing Administration Practicum III (2)
Prerequisites: NUR 593, 693A
A practicum experience designed for synthesis of theory and practice where students develop, implement, and evaluate advanced practice leadership strategies in a health care systems area of focus.

696. Thesis (3)
Prerequisites: NUR 514, 530.
This course enables the implementation of the research proposal developed in the nursing research course. This project will focus on a problem in a school/college of nursing or health care delivery system. The subject of health care improvements is emphasized through nursing research utilization. Pass/Fail.

697. Scholarly Project (3)
Prerequisites: NUR 514, 530.
Through the completion of the scholarly project the student will identify, analyze, synthesize and utilize knowledge related to a health care issue in a school/college of nursing or health care delivery system. Application of critical thinking and nursing research utilization in this project will result in improved health care outcomes. Pass/Fail.

705. Organizational Leadership and Management (3)
Provides opportunities to examine the leadership and management principles essential in providing a Christ-centered health care environment. Focus will be operational principles, organizational theory, and principles of organizational behavior in establishing a Christ-centered organization and practice.

710. Methods for Evidence-Based Practice (3)
Provides the opportunity for synthesis and evaluation of evidence-based clinical practice and focuses on critique of literature, evaluation of clinical practice, and effective dissemination of evaluation findings. The student will use evidence-based health care as the springboard for discussion of issues in contemporary research.

715. Technological Transformations of Health Care (3)
Designed to prepare the student to evaluate current health care technology and its effect on health care outcomes. The student will analyze and apply today’s information technology, clinical technology, and simulation technology within the health care environment. The student will address quality improvement evaluation to support changes in practice and administration, analysis of ethical-legal implications of digital record systems and distance health care.
720. Faith and Science (3)
The philosophical underpinnings of the Christian worldview as it applies to faith and science in the arena of health care. An understanding of faith as the basis for hope and humanity in delivering quality health care will be discussed while incorporating the quantitative analysis of scientific principles.

725. Health Care Policy and Economics (3)
To prepare the student to critically evaluate the relationship between problems in health care legislation and the development of economic, political, social, and ethical issues that impact nursing. Students will synthesize the components of the Christian worldview related to issues in health care legislation and apply this philosophy to the development of effective health care policies. Students will be prepared to enact fiscally responsible and effective changes in local, state and national health care policies.

728. Transitions to DNP Practice (3)
The purpose of this course is to prepare the student for transition from the student role to Advanced Nursing Practice at the Doctoral level. Emphasis will be placed on content, competencies, and experiences needed for specialty practice and as delineated by national specialty organizations.

730. Epidemiology (3)
Designed to prepare students to employ evidence-based strategies to promote health, reduce risk, and prevent illness in individuals, aggregates, and populations from the Christian worldview approach. Emphasis will be placed on objectives of Health People 2020 and the analysis of epidemiological, biostatistical, occupational, and environmental data. Other integral topics include collaboration with other disciplines, cultural diversity and sensitivity, emergency and disaster preparedness, and infection control.

735. Fellowship I (2)
An introductory course designed to prepare the student to serve within their scope of practice at a high level of complexity. The student will be supported with application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of knowledge gained through core DNP course work to improve clinical practice. Minimum 180 clinical hours. Course is graded Pass/Fail.

738., 739. Fellowship II, III (3 each)
This course is designed to further prepare the student to serve within their scope of practice at a high degree of complexity. The student will be supported with application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of knowledge gained through core DNP course work to improve clinical practice. Minimum 240 clinical hours per course. Course is graded Pass/Fail.

745. Leadership and Teaching Practice Strategies (3)
Designed to prepare the student for the leadership and instructional role, this course will focus on expectations of leaders and educators within academic, practice, and health care systems.

793. DNP Project Development (3)
A faculty-guided scholarly experience to allow the student to develop a proposal for an evidence-based practice project addressing a clinically relevant problem using a collaborative interdisciplinary design.

791. DNP Project Implementation (2-3)
A faculty-guided scholarly experience to allow the student to implement an evidence-based practice project addressing the clinically relevant problem. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 8 semester hours credit.

794. DNP Project Completion (3)
A faculty-guided scholarly experience to allow the student to evaluate and disseminate findings of the evidence-based practice project addressing a clinically relevant problem.

755. DNP Special Study (1-4)
Group studies which do not appear in the School course offerings. Content will be determined by need. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

765. DNP Independent Study (1-4)
Individual research and study under the guidance of a nursing faculty member. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

779. DNP External Domestic Study (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

780. DNP Study Abroad (1-6)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.