



**The University of North Carolina Wilmington**

**SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**Master of Science (MSN) & Post  
Master's Family Nurse Practitioner  
Program**

**2018-2019**

UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON  
**SCHOOL of NURSING**  
**MSN FAMILY NURSE PRACTITONER & Post Masters**  
**FNP STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**PREFACE**

The purpose of this Student Handbook is to assist in understanding the policies, procedures, and general information specific to the MSN Family Nurse Practitioner program options of the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) School of Nursing (SON). The information in this guide is a supplement to the published current issues of *The University of North Carolina Wilmington Graduate Catalogue* accessible at <http://catalogue.uncw.edu/index.php?catoid=40>

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The University of North Carolina Wilmington is committed to and will provide equality of educational and employment opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex (such as gender, marital status, and pregnancy), age, color, national origin (including ethnicity), creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran status or relationship to other university constituents—except where sex, age or ability represent bona fide educational or occupational qualifications or where marital status is a statutorily established eligibility criterion for state-funded employee benefit programs. (*The University of North Carolina Wilmington Graduate Catalogue 2016-2017*).

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*Students are responsible for keeping up-to-date on all of the policies and procedures via the Graduate School Web site (<http://www.uncw.edu/gradschool/>) or the School of Nursing Web site (<http://www.uncw.edu/son/>). The information in this handbook and other University catalogs, publications, or announcements is subject to change without notice. University offices can provide current information about possible changes.*

*Introduction*

## SECTION I

### The University of North Carolina Wilmington School of Nursing

#### *Overview and History of the School of Nursing*

In the early 1960s, the New Hanover County Commissioners consolidated James Walker Memorial Hospital and Community Hospital creating the New Hanover Memorial Hospital, which has since become New Hanover Regional Medical Center (NHRMC). With the acquisition of Cape Fear Hospital, the current designation as New Hanover Health Network (NHHN) evolved. The New Hanover Memorial Hospital Board of Directors discontinued the diploma nursing programs that had existed at James Walker Memorial Hospital and Community Hospital. In response, county officials requested that Wilmington College establish a two-year associate degree program in nursing. The first Wilmington College nursing class graduated with an Associate of Arts degree in nursing in 1967.

During the 1970s, UNCW initiated plans for a Bachelor of Science program with a concentration in professional nursing. In 1980 a baccalaureate program was recommended to meet the needs of both first-time nursing students and registered nurses wishing to earn a four-year degree. In 1984, the UNC Board of Governors approved establishing the UNCW baccalaureate program in nursing. The curriculum received initial (provisional) approval from the Board of Nursing in June 1984. Having acquired approval from the University of North Carolina System and the North Carolina Board of Nursing, UNCW established the School of Nursing (SON) on July 1, 1984.

Authorization to plan the graduate program was granted by the University of North Carolina General Administration in Fall 1997, with authorization to establish the program in July 1998. The first cohort of students (ten full-time and ten part-time) was admitted in Fall 1998. The planning year and the first two years of the program were supported partially by grants totaling over one million dollars from the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the Cape Fear Memorial Foundation. The first Master of Science in Nursing class of nine students graduated in May 2000. In 2004, continuing accreditation was granted the baccalaureate and MSN programs by the NLNAC for the maximum period of eight years (2012). In 2004, the SON admitted three students into the inaugural class of the Master of Science in Nursing – Nurse Educator Option (MSN NE). In response to the critical shortage of registered nurses in professional practice, and the need to produce more faculty to accommodate increased student enrollment, the Nurse Educator Option was approved as the second option in the MSN program.

In June 2003, the Office of the President of the University of North Carolina approved the intent to plan the Bachelor of Science in Clinical Research (non-nursing major). The following year in Fall 2004, a cohort of five students commenced the program of study. This inaugural class of five students graduated in May 2006 and the second and third cohorts graduated nine in May 2007 and nine in May 2008 respectively. Enrollment has increased steadily in the CLR program and is projected to continue to increase for the foreseeable future. This initiative was a collaboration of the UNCW SON and Pharmaceutical Product Development, Inc. (PPD). In the Spring of 2010 the General Administration of the University of North Carolina approved the proposal to begin a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Research Management and Product Development and will enroll the first students in January 2011.

The UNCW School of Nursing has continuously been approved by the North Carolina Board of Nursing (NCBON). In 2002 the SON was reviewed and reaccredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), as a part of the overall UNCW reaccreditation review. The university was awarded the maximum ten-year reaccreditation (2012).

The master's degree program in nursing at the UNCW School of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

The post-graduate APRN certificate program) at the School of Nursing are pursuing initial accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org>). Applying for accreditation does not guarantee that accreditation will be granted.

Since 2004, the SON has offered health education programs in nursing and clinical research. With both nursing and clinical research, the SON began to actualize the vision reflective of a College of Nursing and Health Professions.

The SON is an integral part of UNCW and a vital contributor to the healthcare community in New Hanover County and the surrounding southeastern region. The faculty is committed to preparing nursing graduates at the baccalaureate and master's levels to become vital members of the workforce contributing to the health of the community. The faculty is also committed to interprofessional collaboration in teaching, scholarship, and service to promote, support, and maintain the health of the citizens.

The SON moved into the new state-of-the-art building designated for nursing in August 2010 and the building was dedicated as McNeill Hall on April 18, 2011. A task force was charged with examining the state health related programs at UNCW in 2007. The Report of the Task Force on the Future of Health Related Programs at UNCW envisioned the establishment of a College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) to foster a transdisciplinary model. Subsequently, the UNCW Board of Trustees and the UNC Board of Governors established the formation of a CHHS in 2008 and to be operationalized in 2010. An Interim Dean was appointed in 2010 and the Founding Dean, Dr. Charles Hardy, was appointed July 1, 2011. The CHHS includes the School of Nursing, the School of Health and Applied Human Sciences, and the School of Social Work. In March

2016, a North Carolina Bond of \$66 million was approved for an Allied Health & Human Services Building. In August 2016 the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program was initiated.

**[CHHS Fact Sheet http://www.uncw.edu/chhs/academics/documents/CHHS-Fact-Sheet%202016-17.pdf](http://www.uncw.edu/chhs/academics/documents/CHHS-Fact-Sheet%202016-17.pdf)**

**[SON Fact Sheet  
http://uncw.edu/son/8.3.2017%20SON%20revised%20Fact%20Sheet%202017-2018.pdf](http://uncw.edu/son/8.3.2017%20SON%20revised%20Fact%20Sheet%202017-2018.pdf)**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

### **Vision**

UNCW will be recognized for excellence in everything it does, for its global mindset and for its community engagement.

### **Mission**

The University of North Carolina Wilmington, the state's coastal university, is dedicated to the integration of teaching and mentoring with research and service. Our commitment to student engagement, creative inquiry, critical thinking, thoughtful expression and responsible citizenship is expressed in our baccalaureate and master's programs, as well as doctoral programs in areas of expertise that serve state needs. Our culture reflects our values of diversity and globalization, ethics and integrity, and excellence and innovation.

### **School of Nursing Mission Statement**

The mission of the UNCW School of Nursing is to educate nursing and clinical research professionals through excellence in teaching, scholarship, service, and community engagement. Emphasis is placed on educating individuals to improve health outcomes and quality of life in diverse populations.

### **School of Nursing Vision Statement**

The UNCW School of Nursing will be recognized as a center of excellence in education, practice, and research that prepares professionals to shape a dynamic healthcare environment and to serve a diverse community.

### **School of Nursing Philosophy**

The School of Nursing actively promotes dedication to the professional values of individual and population-centered care, lifelong learning, quality care and patient safety. We believe that these professional values are essential to the unique discipline of nursing and the holistic perspective that is inherent in all aspects of professional nursing. The conceptual framework for the School of Nursing curriculum reflects the complex interactions of these core values and the concepts of Patient, Environment, Nursing and Health Maintenance to define Professional Nursing. The core values and concepts have been adapted to guide the curriculum throughout the programs are from the standards of the National Research Council, The National Academies Report (2003), the AACN Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice (2008), the NCLEX<sup>®</sup>NRN Test Plan Structure, Client Needs and Integrated Concepts and Processes (2010), and the ACHNE, Essentials of Baccalaureate Nursing Education for Entry Level Community/Public Health Nursing (2000), and the Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing (2011), and the Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (AACN, 2006).

## School of Nursing Program Accreditation

The master's degree program in nursing at the UNCW School of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

The post-graduate APRN certificate program) at the School of Nursing are pursuing initial accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org>). Applying for accreditation does not guarantee that accreditation will be granted. The pre-licensure program is approved by the North Carolina Board of Nursing.

## Contact Information

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### School of Nursing

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### Office of Student Success

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Fax: 910.962.4921  
Email: [chhs@uncw.edu](mailto:chhs@uncw.edu)  
Internet: [www.uncw.edu/oss/students.html](http://www.uncw.edu/oss/students.html)  
<http://www.uncw.edu/oss/MSNCHHSUNCW.html>

### Graduate School

**James Hall**  
**910-962-7303**  
Fax: 910-962-3787  
Internet:  
<http://uncw.edu/gradschool/admissions.html>

### Financial Aid Office

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Internet:  
<http://www.uncw.edu/finaid/process.html>

## **Nursing, M.S.N. – Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration**

### **Purpose**

The Master of Science Family Nurse Practitioner program is designed to produce a professional with advance practice nursing skills to provide primary health care to patients and throughout the lifespan. The 46-47 credit hour curriculum prepares the graduate for advanced practice provider roles in health care service settings. The five-semester program includes foundational course work and a faculty-guided nursing practicums. The curriculum core focuses on Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning, Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nurses, Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics, Theory and Research, Families in Rural and Urban Communities, Advanced Practice Roles/Issues/Trends, Health Policy, and Advanced Practice Role Transition.

The purpose of the post-master's FNP certificate program is to prepare nurse who already possess an earned Master of Science in nursing for a career as a Family Nurse Practitioner. The program of study for each student will be determined following a review of the prior graduate education official transcript and course content. All students pursuing the Post-Master's FNP certificate will complete a designated number of credit and clinical hours (per individual assessment). Additional course work in health assessment, advanced pharmacotherapeutics, or advanced pathophysiology. The program is tailored individually for current nurse practitioners who want the FNP certificate.

The purpose of the post-Master's family nurse practitioner certificate program is to prepare nurses who already possess an earned Master of Science degree in nursing for a career as a Family Nurse Practitioner. The program of study for each student will be determined following a review of prior graduate education. However, all students pursuing the Post-Master's FNP Certificate will complete a designated number credit (based on individual assessment) clinical hours. Functional cognate hours must be taken sequentially. Additional coursework may be required if educational assessment reveals the applicant has not had recent coursework in health assessment, advanced pharmacotherapeutics, or advanced pathophysiology. The program of study will be tailored individually nurses who already hold a Master's degree in nursing and wish to practice as a family nurse practitioner. Upon successful completion of the certificate program, graduates are eligible to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)

## **AACN Essential Competencies**

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Family Nurse Practitioner option prepares advanced practice nurses who possess the knowledge, skill, attitudes, and values to meet the challenges of the 21st Century Health Care Delivery System.

The Family Nurse Practitioner Option reflects the Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing as set forth by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN, 2011). The Essentials reflect the profession's core values and provide the necessary curricular elements, framework, and outcomes expected of all graduates of master's nursing programs.

Essential I: Background for Practice from Sciences and Humanities

Essential II: Organizational and Systems Leadership

Essential III: Quality Improvement and Safety

Essential IV: Translating and Integrating Scholarship into Practice

Essential V: Informatics and Healthcare Technologies

Essential VI: Health Policy and Advocacy

Essential VII: Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes.

Essential VIII: Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving Health

Essential IX: Master's-Level Nursing Practice

## **MSN PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

**Upon completion of the Master's curriculum, the new graduate will be able to:**

1. Design client-centered care through advanced practice and education with an altruistic concern for the welfare of others while supporting autonomy and respecting human dignity.
2. Demonstrate integrity through accountability and responsibility for clinical decisions and lifelong learning.
3. Manage quality improvement measures that support legal/ethical standards through the use of evidence-based practice.
4. Impact the health of underserved populations through support and promotion of culturally competent care.
5. Evaluate domestic and global health integrating the knowledge of healthcare delivery systems, healthcare policies, epidemiology, and the environment.
6. Promote the health of clients/patients through education and multidisciplinary management of risk reduction, disease prevention and the management of illness.

7. Demonstrate professional role competence in education and advanced nursing practice.

## Degree Requirements

- 1 A total of forty-six (46) graduate credit hours is required for the family nurse practitioner option. No minor is required.
- 2 All courses required in the program are open only to graduate students.
- 3 A total of six credit hours of transfer credit may be accepted with approval from the graduate coordinator.
- 4 With the exception of six approved transfer credits, all graduate study must be completed in residence depending upon the degree option pursued.
- 5 An MSN student must have a "B" or better in each required course. If a student earns a "C", he/she must repeat the course and must earn a "B" or better to progress. A student will only be allowed to repeat one course. A student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0.

## Core Performance Standards

Admission to the School of Nursing Master of Science in Nursing program is not based on the following performance standards, but on the eligibility requirements defined in the admissions materials. **The performance standards are used to assist students in determining whether accommodations or modification are necessary and provide an objective measure upon which informed decisions can be based about whether the student can meet requirements.**

- \* Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment.
- \* Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
- \* Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.
- \* Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces.
- \* Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.
- \* Auditory abilities sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.
- \* Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.
- \* Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.

If an otherwise qualified student believes that he or she cannot meet one or more of the standards without accommodation or modifications, the nursing program will determine, on an individual basis, whether or not the necessary modifications can be made reasonably. The following process will be used:

1. Each student admitted to the Master of Science in Nursing program will have online access to the Family Nurse Practitioner Student Handbook which includes a list of the required Core Performance Standards.
2. If you are a student with a disability and need accommodations, you must be registered with Disability Services (DePaolo Hall, 910-962-7555). Please provide your Accommodations Letter within the first week of class or as soon as possible. You should then meet with your instructor to make mutually agreed upon arrangements based upon the recommendations in the Accommodations Letter. For additional information please click the following link: <http://uncw.edu/disability/>. You can contact a representative by clicking on the following link and referring to the contact information for each representative: <http://uncw.edu/disability/about/contact.html>

## **Program of Study**

The purpose of this program is to prepare an advanced practice generalist who possesses knowledge, skills, and attitudes to provide community focused primary care for culturally diverse families in rural or medically underserved areas. This includes advanced theory and clinical education emphasizing: Primary health across the life span for underserved rural or urban populations and high quality, cost-effective, unique health care that results in a high level of patient satisfaction.

### **Program Core (46 credit hours)**

Successful completion of all courses in the curriculum core is required for graduation.

- NSG 500 – Theory and Research for Evidence Based Practice: **4**
- NSG 501 – Health Care Systems and Education Informatics and Technology: **3\***
- NSG 503 – Families in Rural and Urban Communities: **3**
- NSG 504 – Healthcare Delivery Systems and Health Policy: **3**
- NSG 506 – Advanced Practice Roles/Issues/Trends: **3 \*\***
- NSG 510 – Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning: **3**
- NSG 512 – Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics: **3**
- NSG 514 – Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice: **3**
- NSG 515 – Advanced Practice Role Transition: **1**
- NSG 520 – Advanced Primary Care of Families: Infants, Children, and Adolescents: **3**
- NSG 520L – Clinical Practicum III: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Infants, Children, and Adolescents: **2**
- NSG 521 – Advanced Primary Care of Families: Women: **3**
- NSG 521L – Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Women: **2**
- NSG 522 -- Advanced Primary Care of Families: Adults: **3**
- NSG 522L -- Clinical Practicum I: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Adults: **2**
- NSG 594L – Clinical Practicum IV: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Complex Health Problems Across the Lifespan: **5**

- NSGXXX -- Elective: 3

**\*Added Fall 2017**

**\*\*Graduating Classes of 2017 & 2018**

## **Course Descriptions**

### **NSG 500 Theory and Research for Evidence Based Practice**

Prerequisite: Basic statistics course and undergraduate research course. This online seminar course focuses on the linkages between theory, research, and practice. Emphasis is on the recognition and valuing of theory application and advanced principles and methods of research as a central characteristic of advanced nursing practice. Learning focus is directed toward the critical appraisal of scholarly literature as the basis for decision making in advanced practiced nursing.

### **NSG 501 Health Care Systems and Education Informatics and Technology**

This course examines clinical information systems, health care systems technology, education technology, and medical languages. Informatics concepts are discussed and applied to knowledge management and investigative inquiry. The focus is on the impact of informatics and technology on health care systems, health care education and nursing practice. (Added to curriculum fall 2017)

### **NSG 503 Families in Rural and Urban Communities**

This course explores and compares theories and concepts related to diverse families across the life span and underserved communities. Individual, family and community health are examined within the context of diversity and change. Students have independent field experiences in family and community settings.

### **NSG 504 Healthcare Delivery Systems and Health Policy**

An online seminar course focusing on social, psychological, cultural, economic, political, legal, and ethical trends and issues which shape health care delivery systems. Advanced nursing practice in primary care is studied relative to inter-professional relationships and leadership in health policy, health care reform, healthcare delivery systems, poverty research, and interdisciplinary health management.

### **NSG 506 Advanced Practice Roles/Issues/Trends**

This course examines issues and trends in the advanced practice role. Topics include advanced practice historical perspectives, professional role development, and practice management. (Graduating classes of 2017 and 2018)

### **NSG 510 Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning**

Advanced health assessment and diagnostic reasoning focuses on assessment of health status of individuals and families throughout the lifespan addressing cultural and developmental variations. Diagnostic reasoning is emphasized as the decision-making process which differentiates normal from abnormal health states.

### **NSG 512 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics**

Advanced pharmacotherapeutics provides the advanced practice nurse a rational basis for pharmacologic management of clients. The principles of pharmacology and the process of pharmacological reasoning for primary care of common acute and chronic illnesses will be presented. The core topics will examine advanced nursing roles in the management of pharmacotherapeutics for clients across the life-span in rural and urban underserved communities.

### **NSG 514 Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice**

An advanced course in the pathophysiology of human conditions. Emphasis is on selected disease and conditions of various body systems and the adaptation of those systems to disease across the life span.

### **NSG 515 Advanced Practice Role Transition**

Corequisite: [NSGL 594](#). A web-enhanced/blended seminar course focused on professional role development and transition into advanced practice nursing. Students will focus on evaluation of core competency attainment, professional portfolio development, and marketing the role of the advanced practice nurse in a primary care setting.

### **NSG 520 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Infants, Children, and Adolescents**

Prerequisites: [NSG 510](#), NSG512, [NSG 514](#), NSG522, NSGL522, [NSG 506](#), Co-requisite: [NSGL 520](#). This course focuses on advanced nursing practice specializing in the primary health care of infants, children, and adolescents. The development of analytical skills and ethical clinical decision making as essential components of the advanced practice role are included. The major emphasis is on developing optimum client outcomes that promote cost-effective, quality health care within the context of family and a multicultural society. The lab for this course is [NSGL 520](#).

### **NSGL 520 Clinical Practicum III: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Infants, Children, and Adolescents**

Corequisites: [NSG 520](#). This practicum provides 120 hours of focused, intensive clinical experiences in the care of infants, children, and adolescents for advanced practice nursing students. Students gain increasing skill in providing primary health care to children. Students practice with increasing independence under the supervision of on-site clinical preceptors. This course is the lab for [NSG 520](#).

### **NSG 521 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Women**

Prerequisites: [NSG 510](#), NSG512, [NSG 514](#), NSG522, NSGL522. Co-requisite: [NSGL 521](#). This course focuses on advanced nursing practice specializing in the primary health care of women with an emphasis on health issues and problems that affect women disproportionately. The development of analytical skills and ethical clinical decision making as essential components of the advanced practice role are included. The major emphasis is on developing optimum client outcomes that promote cost-effective, quality health care within the context of family and a multicultural society. [NSGL 521](#).

**NSGL 521 Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Women**

Corequisite: [NSG 521](#). This practicum provides 120 hours of focused, intensive clinical experiences in the care of women for advanced practice nursing students. Students gain increasing skill in providing primary health care to women. Students practice with increasing independence under the supervision of on-site clinical preceptors. This course is the lab for [NSG 521](#).

**NSG 522 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Adults**

Prerequisites: [NSG 510](#), [NSG512](#), [NSG 514](#). Co-requisite [NSGL 522](#). This course focuses on advanced nursing practice specializing in the primary health care of adults. The development of analytical skills and ethical clinical decision making as essential components of the advanced practice role are included. The major emphasis is on developing optimum client outcomes that promote cost-effective, quality health care within the context of family and a multicultural society. The lab for this course is [NSGL 522](#).

**NSGL 522 Clinical Practicum I: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Adults**

Co-requisite: [NSG 522](#). This practicum provides 120 hours of focused, intensive clinical experiences in the care of adults for advanced practice nursing students. Students gain increasing skill in providing primary health care to adults. Students practice with increasing independence under the supervision of on-site clinical preceptors. This course is the lab for [NSG 522](#).

**NSGL 594 Clinical Practicum IV: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Complex Health Problems Across the Lifespan**

Prerequisites: [NSG 500](#), [NSG 503](#), [NSG 504](#), [NSG 506](#), NSG 510, NSG512, [NSG 514](#), [NSG 520](#), [NSG 521](#), [NSG 522](#) and [NSGL 520](#), [NSGL 521](#), [NSGL 522](#). A 240-hour practicum experience that synthesizes critical thinking and clinical experiences. Clinical competency is developed in assessment, diagnosis, and management of complex health problems across the life-span with the guidance of a preceptor.

**Elective**

Student choice of nursing graduate electives as they are available.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON SCHOOL OF NURSING  
MSN FNP PROGRAM OF STUDY **Full Time**

Full Time Admission Term	Course	Credits	
Fall 1	NSG 501 Health Care Systems and Education Informatics and Technology	3	
	NSG 514 Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice	3	
	NSG 512 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics	3	
	NSG 510 Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning	<u>3</u>	
	Total Credits	12	
Spring 1	NSG 500 Theory and Research for Evidence Based Practice	4	
	NSG 522 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Adults	3	
	NSGL 522 Clinical Practicum I: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Adults	<u>2</u>	120
	Total Credits	9	
Fall 2	NSG 503 Families in Rural and Urban Communities	3	
	NSG 504 Healthcare Delivery System and Health Policy	3	
Fall 2	NSG 521 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Women	3	
	NSGL 521 Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Primary Care of Women	2	120
	<b>OR</b>		
	NSG 520 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Infants, Children, and Adolescents	3	
	NSGL 520 Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Care of Families: Infants, Children and Adolescents	<u>2</u>	120
	Total Credits	11	
Spring 2	NSG XXX Elective	3	
	NSG 520 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Infants, Children and Adults	3	
Spring 2	NSGL 520 Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Care of Families: Infants, Children and Adolescents	2	120
	<b>OR</b>		
	NSG 521 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Women	3	
	NSGL 521 Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Primary Care of Women	<u>2</u>	120
Total Credits	8		
Fall 3	NSGL 594 Clinical Practicum IV: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Complex Health Problems Across the Lifespan	5	240
	NSG 515 Advanced Practice Role Transition	<u>1</u>	
	Total Credits	6	

**Total Hours: 46 Credit Hours      600 clinical hours**

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON SCHOOL OF NURSING  
MSN FNP PROGRAM OF STUDY  
**Part Time**

Term	Course	Credits	
Fall 1	NSG 501 Health Care Systems and Education Informatics and Technology	3	
	NSG 514 Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice	<u>3</u>	
	Total Credits	6	
Spring 1	NSG 500 Theory and Research for Evidence Based Practice	4	
	NSG XXX Elective	<u>3</u>	
	Total Credits	7	
Fall 2	NSG 512 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics	3	
	NSG 510 Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning	<u>3</u>	
	Total Credits	6	
Spring 2	NSG 522 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Adults	3	
	NSGL522 Clinical Practicum III: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Adults	<u>2</u>	120
	Total Credits	5	
Fall 3	NSG 503 Families in Rural and Urban Communities	3	
	NSG 521 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Women	3	
	NSGL 521 Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Primary Care of Women	2	120
	<b>OR</b>		
	NSG 520 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Infants, Children, and Adolescents	3	120
	NSGL 520 Clinical Practicum I: Advanced Care of Families: Infants, Children and Adolescents	<u>2</u>	
Total Credits	8		
Spring 3	NSG 520 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Infants, Children and Adults	3	
	NSGL 520 Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Care of Families: Infants, Children and Adolescents	2	120
	<b>OR</b>		
	NSG 521 Advanced Primary Care of Families: Women	3	
	NSGL 521 Clinical Practicum II: Advanced Primary Care of Women	<u>2</u>	120
	Total Credits	5	
Fall 4	NSGL 594 Clinical Practicum IV: Advanced Primary Care of Families: Complex Health Problems Across the Lifespan	5	240
	NSG 515 Advanced Practice Role Transition	1	
	NSG 504 Healthcare Delivery Systems and Health Policy	<u>3</u>	
	Total Credits	9	
<b>Total Hours: 46 Credit Hours</b>			<b>600 clinical hours</b>

## **Course Registration**

The process for registering for graduate courses is described on the website “Steps to Search for Courses and Register for Courses”. This site also contains the instructions for dropping and adding courses after you have registered. You will have to complete the process through [SeaNet](#) which is the portal for accessing courses, schedules, the graduate catalogue, and financial aid. [Graduate Course Registration](#)

## **Academic Review for Awarding Clinical/Practice Credits**

In accordance with the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education (2016) Essentials 500 advanced practice post-BSN clinical/practice hours must be documented to earn a MSN degree. The Post Master’s FNP curriculum will be based on faculty review of official transcripts, course descriptions, and feedback from schools graduated from, it will be determined how many hours are needed for each individual student enrolled in the program. These hours do not include employment experiences or continuing education courses but must be listed on an official transcript from a nationally accredited institution and must demonstrate scholarly rigor and engagement in clinical practicum.

## **Clinical Placement Handbook**

Additional clinical information is provided in the MSN FNP Clinical Placement Handbook:

<http://uncw.edu/oss/son/documents/msfnpcinplacehandbook.pdf>

## **Master's Project**

This project and oral presentation fulfills the UNCW Graduate School's requirement for a culminating research paper and oral defense (presentation). It is included in NSGL 594, the student's final clinical course in the FNP curriculum.

## **Case Based Research Utilization Assignment:**

The purpose of this four-part assignment is to expand the student's skill from the clinical encounter to the development of the PICO clinical question. Students will select one patient with complex medical diagnoses, work through the patient encounter, and choose one diagnosis to focus on searching for evidence-based resources through the development of PICO.

The primary focus of this assignment will be problem identification, process of inquiry, suitability of research evidence, and evaluation of resources for a case study of a particular patient. The overall goal is to develop the research and analysis skills needed to use evidence based resources to address patient issues within the context of complex, multi-system diseases.

A secondary focus of this assignment is for the student to assimilate a great deal of information about the all body systems the interaction of these body systems/diseases, and how disease or medication affect the entire individual. Rationale for clinical decision making, diagnostic testing, and treatment must be provided from evidence-based sources. The parts of this assignment include: (1) PICO question posed and critical analysis, (2) literature matrix summarizing recent research evidence related to clinical care raised in the PICO question, (3) Case Study Paper integrating the evidence and presenting history, physical examination, differential diagnoses, plan of care, evaluation, and (4) Oral presentation of the clinical case to the clinical group and faculty.

## **Support Services**

### **Academic Support Services**

The University Learning Center (ULC) provides academic support services in a variety of areas. Visit the ULC website for details about services that are available to all UNCW students (<http://uncw.edu/ulc/>).

The ULC offers online writing consultation to assist students with academic writing. It is recommended that students submit drafts of written assignments at least one week before the assignment is due. Additional information is available at <http://uncw.edu/ulc/writing/onlinerresponse.html>.

### **Technology Support Services**

The Technology Assistance Center (TAC) provides technology support to all UNCW students. Students can call TAC at 910-962-HELP for assistance. Hours of operation vary and are posted on the TAC homepage (<http://uncw.teamdynamix.com/TDclient/home/>).

### **Office of e-Learning**

The Office of e-Learning provides a wide variety of 'How-to' instructional materials for students enrolled in online course. The resources include step-by-step directions and videos to help guide students with use of technology in online learning. Visit the OEL website to access these resources (<http://uncw.edu/oel/studenthowto.html>).

### **Health and Counseling Services**

The Abrons Student Health Center on the UNCW campus provides health services to UNCW students. Visit their website for additional information (<http://uncw.edu/healthservices/>).

The Counseling Center on the UNCW campus provides a broad range of psychological, counseling, and educational services to UNCW students. Visit their website for additional information and to access stress reduction resources (<http://uncw.edu/counseling/about.html>)

### **Student Governance**

The Graduate Student Association of the University of North Carolina Wilmington is the student government association representing all graduate students at UNCW. The organization works to advance interests and welfare of graduate students within the university (UNCW GSA Constitution, 2011). Membership is granted to all full and part-time graduate students at UNCW. Learn more about participating in university level governance by visiting the GSA website at <http://student.uncw.edu/org/gsa/>

Nursing students have the opportunity to contribute to program governance within the School of Nursing by serving as the student representative on each of the school's governance committees including: Graduate Faculty Council and FNP Program Council Students are notified of committee vacancies by the program coordinator and can self-nominate to serve in this importance governance role.

## SECTION II

### GENERAL PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

#### Awards

**Award of Excellence—Graduate—both FNP and NE**—Awarded in December and in May

(1 graduate student—from each the FNP and NE majors)

Criteria:

1. Overall cumulative GPA 3.25 or above. (Verified by Student Services Coordinator)
2. Outstanding clinical/academic performance.
3. Nominations accepted from all SON Graduate faculty—with justification statement.
4. Must be graduating at the respective December or May commencement.
5. Endorsement by the Graduate Council—name of selected students presented to the Director.
6. An individual plaque for this award will be given to the student and an annual collective plaque will be placed in McNeill Hall.

**Achievement Award—Graduate —both FNP and NE**—Awarded in December and in May

(1 graduate student—from each the FNP and NE majors)

Criteria:

1. Demonstrates growth and mastery of nursing concepts and practices.
2. Utilizes resources effectively to develop potential.
3. Takes initiative for own responsibility for learning growth.
4. Nominations accepted from all SON Graduate faculty—with justification statement.
5. Must be graduating at the respective December or May commencement.
6. Endorsement by the Graduate Council—name of selected students presented to the Director.
7. An individual plaque for this award will be given to the student.

#### Maintenance of RN Licensure

All MSN Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program and certificate students are required to maintain continuous RN licensure during enrollment in the program. If a student's RN license is renewed during the program, the student must provide documentation of this renewal to the nursing faculty adviser. If the student's RN license lapses or becomes encumbered due to a disciplinary action, the student is required to notify the program coordinator immediately and can be dismissed from the program.

## **Software Requirements**

Students are required to have Microsoft Office when taking courses in the MSN programs. Additional software requirements will be listed on course syllabi.

## **Browser Requirements**

Students are required to use browsers that are compatible and recommended for UNCW's current version of Blackboard or other learning management system used by UNCW. The current recommendation is for Firefox Extended Support Release (ESR). Visit <http://uncw.edu/dl/gettingstarted.html> for updates and to learn more. Students are to complete a browser test to ensure the web browser is properly configured. The browser test is accessible after logging into Blackboard.

## **Hardware Requirements**

It is recommended that your computer/laptop be no more than three years old. A web camera and microphone may be used. Additional hardware requirements will be listed on course syllabi. Students must have access to a reliable high-speed internet connection. Assignment due dates will not be extended due to disruptions in internet access. Students must have computer operating system and internet browser will vary so it is important to check for compatibility before beginning a course using Blackboard. The School of Nursing reserves the right, at any time, to use distance learning technologies (e.g. interactive video to and from remote sites) in the delivery of educational offerings.

## **Insurance**

Liability insurance is required for each semester that a student is registered for clinical courses and is for coverage while working in a student capacity only. Each student is required to have liability insurance with minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 incident/\$3,000,000 aggregate. RNs should be aware that most if not all, employment coverage does not transfer to student coverage. Professional liability insurance will be billed to the student's account each semester for an annual cost of \$17.50 (cost subject to change).

Health insurance is required for all UNCW students Health Insurance is required for all UNCW students who meet the following three criteria: enrolled in a minimum of 6 credit hours per semester for undergraduates or 1 credit hour for graduate students; enrolled in a degree-seeking program; and eligible to pay the UNCW student health fee. Since extension and distance education students do not pay the health fee or use the health center, they will not be required to show proof of health insurance.

## **Orientation**

Students are required to attend the FNP on campus orientation **and** the on line and Blackboard Orientations within the first 3 weeks of beginning the program. An optional orientation is provided by UNCW Graduate School. Students are encouraged to attend.

## **Retention and Progression Policy**

Refer to “Retention Policy” as outlined in the University of North Carolina Wilmington Graduate Catalogue under “Academic Regulations and Procedures” section for graduate school policy. However, note that the following are School of Nursing specific policies related to retention and progression. Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by all Graduate School and SON policies related to retention and progression.

- Student must maintain a grade of “B” (3.0) in each required course in the programs in order to remain in the program. A student who receives less than a “B” (3.0), but no lower than a “C” (2.0), in any course will be allowed to repeat the one (1) course. A student will only be allowed to repeat one (1) course. A student who is unsuccessful on the second attempt in a nursing course or a student who receives a grade of “C” or below in two or more nursing courses will be dismissed from the program. In accordance with the graduate school progression policy, a student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 at all times. Further, if a student falls below the required 3.0 GPA at any time, he or she goes on academic probation. The student will be given the opportunity to repeat the course a maximum of one time when the course is offered again.
- Students who achieve a grade of C in NSG 520, 521, 522 or NSGL 594 will be given the opportunity to repeat the course a maximum of one time when the course is offered again. If the student chooses this option to repeat the didactic portion of the course, the student will be required to repeat the co-requisite clinical course (NSGL 520, NSGL 521, or NSGL 522) and required clinical hours regardless of the original grade achieved in that course. For example, a student who receives a “C” in NSG 520 will be given the opportunity to repeat the course, but will be required to repeat NSGL 520 regardless of the grade received during the first attempt.
- An incomplete grade (“I”) indicates that the student was passing the course at the time of consideration for Incomplete and is unable to complete the course requirements. It also indicates that the student received consent from the course faculty member to complete the work for which the “I” grade is awarded. An “I” grade must be removed no later than one calendar year from the time the grade is awarded. An “I” grade not removed will be converted to an “F.” Should the “I” occur in the final semester, the student will complete the course for a letter grade in the concurrent semester. The Graduate School will then confer the degree at commencement during which the course was successfully completed.

- In order to progress in each course in the curriculum, students are expected to adhere to professional standards of advanced nursing practice and exhibit behaviors demonstrating role readiness. Examples of readiness include: 1) availability to the program; 2) collaborative interpersonal skills; 3) emotional stability; 4) ethical behavior and legal behavior; 5) clinical skills, and 6) personal and professional accountability. Students deemed clinically unsafe will be dismissed from the program and will not be eligible for readmission.

## Grading

The University of North Carolina Wilmington uses the quality point system and semester hour credit for calculating student achievement. Grade symbols and equivalent quality points used are as follows [Graduate Grading](#):

Grade	Points	Grade Point	
A	100-90	4.00 qp	Excellence
B	89-80	3.00 qp	Completely satisfactory
C	79-70	2.00 qp	Minimally acceptable
F	<70	0 qp	Failure
I/F		0 qp	Failure
P/F			Pass/Fail
S			Satisfactory progress (thesis)
U			Unsatisfactory progress (thesis)
I/U			Unsatisfactory progress (thesis)
I			Work incomplete
W			Withdraw passing

## Grade Appeal Procedure

Any student considering an appeal of a final course grade should understand that each faculty member has the academic freedom and responsibility to determine grades according to any method chosen by the faculty member. However, prejudiced or capricious academic evaluation by a faculty member is a violation of a student's rights and valid grounds for a grade appeal. Any intent to appeal a final course grade must be made in writing to the Graduate School within 30 days of issuances of the grade. Any student who contests a course grade shall first attempt to resolve the matter with the instructor involved. Failing to reach a satisfactory resolution, the student may appeal the grade in accordance with the procedures outlined by the Graduate School. Please visit the Graduate School Grade Appeal

Procedure website for additional information.

<http://www.uncw.edu/gradschool/currentstudents/gradeappeal.html>

## **Academic Grievance Procedure**

Students enrolled in the MSN Nurse Educator programs are to follow the Graduate School Academic Grievance Procedure for academic or procedure concerns (not grade-related).

Graduate students who have academic or procedural concerns, other than grades, should attempt to resolve those concerns at the lowest academic level as soon as possible (and no more than 90 days) after the event giving rise to the complaint. The first level for redress is with the appropriate faculty member. Within 30 days of failing to reach a satisfactory resolution with the faculty member, the student may appeal to the department chairman. Failing resolution at the department level, the student may, within 10 business days, appeal jointly to the dean for the student's academic area and to the dean of the Graduate School. The deans (or their designees) will conduct interviews with all parties to arrive at a resolution of the issue. The mutually agreed upon decision of the deans will be final and not subject to further appeal. Complaints that fall within the categories of sexual harassment, improper personal relationships, personal discrimination, unlawful workplace harassment, or workplace violence should be filed in accordance with Appendix J of the UNCW Code of Student Life (UNCW, 2016)

UNCW Graduate School (2016). *Academic grievance procedure*. Retrieved from [http://catalogue.uncw.edu/content.php?catoid=40&navoid=5219#Academic Grievance Procedure](http://catalogue.uncw.edu/content.php?catoid=40&navoid=5219#Academic_Grievance_Procedure)

[Approved: 08/14/97](#)

[Revised: 03/30/05, 08/22/08, 04/20/10, 11/17/11, 6/18/14, unable to find exact date for 2016 revision by the UNCW Graduate School](#)

## **Code of Ethics**

All School of Nursing programs subscribe to the Code of Student Conduct of the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

## **Student Standards of Conduct**

Students share in the responsibility for maintaining an environment in which the rights of each member of the academic community are respected. When asked to report to any university office, a student is expected to appear at the time specified or to arrange another appointment. All students and their guests shall be responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that helps to enhance an

environment of learning in which the rights, dignity, worth and freedom of each member of the academic community are respected.

In addition, students and faculty of UNCW SON subscribe to the American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics whereby, all students and faculty are expected to be honest and honorable in all academic and professional endeavors. It is further expected that they will refrain from any activity, which might impair the image of the university, school, or the nursing profession.

### **Academic Conduct**

All students and faculty are expected to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including, but not limited to, plagiarism, the giving or falsifying of any academic documents or related materials, cheating, and the giving or receiving of unauthorized aid in tests, examinations, or other assigned school work.

### **Professional Conduct**

Professional misconduct is construed as any violation of the following provisions:

1. Faculty and students assume responsibility for individual and professional judgments and actions. Also, it is expected that they will seek consultation and clarification on professional actions in which there is uncertainty. It is expected further that they will continue to maintain the competence of their practice.
  - 1.1. The student nurse assumes responsibility and accountability for individual nursing judgments and actions at his/her level of knowledge and expertise.
  - 1.2. Nursing faculty and nursing students exercise informed judgment and use individual competence and qualifications as criteria in seeking consultation, accepting responsibilities, and delegating nursing activities to others.
2. It is expected that faculty and students will respect and uphold the rights of all their patients and their students.
  - 2.1. By providing services with respect for human dignity and the uniqueness of the patient and/or student unrestricted by considerations of social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems.
  - 2.2. By safeguarding the patient's/students right to privacy by judiciously protecting information of a confidential nature.
3. It is expected that faculty and students will protect patients and students against incompetent, unethical, or illegal practice.
  - 3.1. By participating in the profession's efforts to establish and maintain conditions of practice conducive to high quality of nursing care.
  - 3.2. By participating in the profession's efforts to implement and improve standards of nursing and nursing education.

- 3.3. By participating in the profession's efforts to protect the public from misinformation and misrepresentation and to maintain the integrity of nursing.
- 3.4. By collaborating with members of the health profession and other citizens in promoting community and national efforts to meet the health needs of the public.
- 3.5. By assuming responsibility for reporting incompetent, unethical, or illegal practice to the appropriate authority (i.e., incident reports, etc.)
- 4. It is expected that faculty will respect and uphold the rights of students.
  - 4.1. By maintaining confidentiality of students' records.
  - 4.2. By obtaining or disseminating to the appropriate persons only information strictly pertinent to student's current academic performance.
  - 4.3. By treating the student as a person of worth and dignity.
- 5. It is expected that students will respect and uphold the rights of faculty.
  - 5.1. By maintaining confidentiality of faculty records.
  - 5.2. By obtaining or disseminating to the appropriate persons only information strictly pertinent to faculty's current academic performance.
  - 5.3. By treating the faculty member as a person of worth and dignity.
- 6. The NC BON Regulations will also be upheld during the student's time in the FNP program.

### **Student Misconduct & Academic Integrity**

Every student attending the School of Nursing is expected to adhere to the UNCW Honor Code. Any violation of the above is considered an act of misconduct and warrants disciplinary action appropriate to the violation. A student has the right to contest any allegation of misconduct or disciplinary action. Whenever possible, allegations of misconduct should be settled at the lowest possible level—between the individuals involved. Allegations of misconduct should be resolved as quickly as possible. When a faculty member believes that a student has engaged in misconduct or scholastic dishonesty, the faculty member will submit a report to the Office of Student Affairs. The student may then be required to meet with a staff member to discuss the matter. If a student disagrees with the outcome of the case and does not wish to accept an informal resolution, the Campus Conduct Board composed of faculty and students will hear the case. When students are found responsible for scholastic dishonesty, the sanctions can include but are not limited to the following options: failing grade on an assignment, failing grade in a course, completing a required assignment, being placed on disciplinary probation, being suspended, or being expelled. Be advised that University policy prohibits withdrawing from a course to avoid a grade penalty due to scholastic dishonesty. The School of Nursing does not allow a student to withdraw from a class if accused of scholastic dishonesty. A student has the right to a hearing and to appeal any disciplinary action. Records of academic misconduct are kept on file in the college office and in the Office of Student Conduct.

## **Class Attendance**

The University policies regarding class attendance states, “Students are expected to be present at all regular class meetings and examinations for the courses in which they are registered. **All faculty members are responsible for setting policy concerning the role of attendance in determining grades for their classes.** It is the responsibility of the students to learn and comply with the policies set for each class in which they are registered.” (See UNCW Catalogue).

Students enrolled in courses in the School of Nursing are responsible for class attendance and for the prescribed activities of the courses. **Students are expected to confer with faculty prior to anticipated absences and make arrangements for any required make-up assignments.** Students are expected to notify faculty when they will be unable to attend a class or clinical/internship experience. In the case of a clinical/internship absence, students are to notify the appropriate faculty member by the beginning of that experience. Following an absence, students will confer with the faculty member regarding the absence and any further assignment. Faculty may deduct points or assign a “0” to an assignment should a student fail to attend a required class.

## **Confidentiality Statement**

As a student assigned to a clinical or educational agency via Contractual Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding between the School of Nursing and the agency, you are allowed access to records of your students. Student information from any source and in any form, including paper records, oral communication, audio recording, and electronic display, is **strictly confidential**. Access to confidential student information is on a need to know basis and must comply with policies of the educational agency and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

It is the policy of the UNCW School of Nursing that students, faculty, and staff of the school shall respect and preserve privacy and confidentiality of patient and student information, regardless of the agency to which the student or faculty is assigned. Violations of this policy include, but are not limited to:

- accessing information that is not within the scope of one’s assignment
- misusing, disclosing without proper authorization, or altering patient, student, or personnel information
- disclosing to another person one’s sign-on code and password for accessing electronic or computerized records
- using another person’s sign-on code and password for accessing electronic or computerized records

- leaving a secured application unattended while signed on and
- attempting to access a secured application without proper authorization.

Violation of this policy by students, faculty or staff to any agency with which the UNCW School of Nursing has a Contractual Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding, may constitute grounds for corrective action up to and including loss of agency privileges, dismissal or termination from the school in accordance with applicable agency, school, or university procedures. Violation of this policy by any member of the school's student body, faculty, or staff may constitute grounds for termination of the contractual relationship or other terms of affiliation between the school and the agency. Unauthorized release of confidential information may also result in personal, civil, and/or criminal liability and legal.

### **Equal Opportunity, Diversity, and Unlawful Harassment**

The SON follows the policies and procedures related to Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Unlawful Harassment as outlined in the Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Catalogues.

### **Civility Statement**

The School of Nursing embraces the UNCW Respect Compact

<http://uncw.edu/diversity/src.html>

The School of Nursing is dedicated to creating and maintaining a civil community that supports respectful discourse and openness to opposing viewpoints.

Members of the School of Nursing Community are asked to:

- Assume goodwill approach situations positively
- Communicate respectfully
- Address issues to the person directly involved. Follow the chain of command if not resolved when discussed with person involved.
- Abide by the American Nurses Association Position statement about civility.

### **Statement of American Nurses Association Position (2015):**

*ANA's Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements states that nurses are required to "create an ethical environment and culture of civility and kindness, treating colleagues, co-workers, employees, students, and others with dignity and respect." Similarly, nurses must be afforded the same level of respect and dignity as others (ANA, 2015a). Thus, the nursing profession will no longer tolerate violence of any kind from any source. All registered nurses and employers in all settings, including practice, academia, and research must collaborate to create a culture of respect, free of incivility, bullying, and workplace violence. Best practice strategies based on evidence must be implemented to prevent and mitigate incivility, bullying, and workplace violence to promote the health, safety, and wellness of registered nurses and to ensure optimal outcomes across the health*

*care continuum. This position statement, although written specifically for registered nurses and employers, is also relevant to other health care professionals and stakeholders who collaborate to create and sustain a safe and healthy interprofessional work environment. Stakeholders who have a relationship with the worksite have a responsibility to address incivility, bullying, and workplace violence (para. 1, 2).*

American Nurses Association (2015). *Incivility, bullying, and workplace violence*. Retrieved from <http://www.nursingworld.org/IncivilityBullying-and-WorkplaceViolence-PositionStatement>

## **Literary Format**

In order to provide consistency, uniformity, clarity, and standardization for written documents in all School of Nursing programs, the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (latest edition) is the adopted style for all written documents in the School of Nursing. This format should be used by all students in writing papers as part of course requirements (unless otherwise specified.) The above titled book is often referred to as the “APA Style Manual.”

## **Substance Abuse Policy**

Students, faculty members, administrators, and other employees of the University of North Carolina Wilmington are responsible, as citizens, for knowing about and complying with the provisions of North Carolina Law that make it a crime to possess, sell, deliver, or manufacture those drugs designated collectively as “controlled substances” in Article 5 of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes. Any member of the university community who violates that law is subject both to prosecution and punishment by the civil authorities and to disciplinary proceedings by UNCW. It is not “double jeopardy” for both the civil authorities and the university to proceed against and punish a person for the same specified conduct. The university will initiate its own disciplinary proceedings against the student, faculty member, administrator, or other employee when the alleged conduct is deemed to affect the interest of the university.

For a complete account, please reference the current issue of *The University of North Carolina Wilmington Student Handbook and Code of Student Life*, *The Code of Student Life*, and *The University of North Carolina Wilmington Student Handbook/Catalogue*: [www.uncw.edu/catalogue](http://www.uncw.edu/catalogue).

## **Drug Screening Program**

1. Admission and Annual Drug Screen- Graduate student nurses **must** pass a urine drug screen no later than two weeks prior to fall orientation, **annually to continue in the program**, and at other times as mandated by clinical

agencies. The student must obtain a 12 panel urine drug screen at a NIDA certified laboratory. The report must be issued from a National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) approved laboratory. The Panel must include Amphetamines (AMP), Barbiturates (BAR), Benzodiazepines (BZO), Cocaine (COC) Metabolite, Marijuana (THC), Methadone (MTD), Methamphetamine (mAMP), Ecstasy (MDMA), Opiate (OPI), Phencyclidine (PCP), Propoxyphene (PPX), and Oxycodone (OXY). (Appendix A, CertifiedBackground.com) A Medical Review Officer (MRO) from Castle Branch consults confidentially with any student that tests positive to verify if there is a valid medical explanation. Complete and accurate results are typically available within 48 hours. At any time a student can access, view and print his/her completed confidential report results from their online account. Refusal or failure to pass a urine drug screen or will result in the withdrawal of the admission.

Students will be required to submit to random urine drug screening throughout their practicum courses. When a random urine drug screen is required, individual students will be notified by email and will have 24 hours to complete the screening. Test results will be made available to the School of Nursing and the student. No individual test results of the drug screen will be provided to clinical agencies. There will be a group list of those qualified to attend clinical as a result of the screen. Before these results are available, student must not attend off-campus clinical experiences. All expenses associated with drug testing are the responsibility of the student.

## 2. Testing based on Reasonable Suspicion

- a. A student may be subject to testing at any time when, in the judgment of a faculty member, there is reasonable cause to suspect the student is engaging in the use of non-prescribed or illegal drugs/alcohol. Such individualized reasonable suspicion may be based on information from any source deemed reasonable by the faculty member, including but not limited to:
  - i. observed possession or use of substances that reasonably appear to be illegal drugs or legal drugs used illegally.
  - ii. conviction for a criminal offense related to the possession, use or trafficking in drugs/alcohol.
  - iii. observed abnormal appearance, conduct or behavior, including unusual patterns of absence from school or excessive tardiness that is reasonably interpretable as being caused by the use of drugs/alcohol.
- b. Individualized reasonable suspicion means: if the available facts were conveyed to a (hypothetical) reasonable person unfamiliar with the student, that person would conclude that there is a factual basis for determining that the student is using a prohibited drug/alcohol.
- c. When individualized reasonable suspicion is found to exist, the

student shall be subject to the SON Policy on Dismissal for Unsafe Practices.

- d. In the case of individualized reasonable suspicion drug testing, the SON shall contract with a private laboratory. Once the student has been confronted by the faculty member of the need for reasonable suspicion drug testing, the faculty member will remove the student from the clinical setting and will coordinate transportation for the student to be screened by the identified laboratory. For student and public safety, the faculty member may request that the student take a cab to the drug testing laboratory. The student must present for drug testing within 2 hours of being confronted by the faculty member. The student is responsible for all expenses associated with drug testing. A consent and release form will be signed by the student for drug testing. Validated copies of the drug test results will be sent to the SON and, subsequently, to the student.
- e. Once the faculty member has confronted and removed the student from the clinical setting, the faculty member shall notify the Program Coordinator, Associate Director of Graduate Programs, School of Nursing, and /or Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

### **3. Consequences of Failure to Participate in or Cooperate with Testing**

An instance of failure or refusal to participate in or cooperate with testing shall be deemed to be an occasion of impermissible drug use that justifies dismissal under the SON Policy on Dismissal for Unsafe Practices.

### **4. Consequences of Impermissible Drug Use**

When prohibited drug use has been confirmed through positive test results, the student shall meet with the Director of the School of Nursing or designated representative of the Director. The following consequences may apply:

- f. Student may be subject to dismissal under the SON Policy on Dismissal for Unsafe Practices.
- g. Referral to UNCW Counseling Center for assessment, treatment recommendations, and follow up monitoring.
  - i. If a student chooses not to participate in the referral and/or treatment prescribed by the UNCW Counseling Center, the student will be subject to dismissal under the SON Policy on Dismissal for Unsafe Practice.
  - ii. If a student chooses to participate in the treatment prescribed by the UNCW Counseling Center, the student may continue theory courses. The student may not attend clinical until the prescribed treatment program has been completed. The treatment program must contain at least the following:
    - 1. Student agrees to assistance, to be drug free, and if there is a

- relapse, the student must report this to the counselor immediately.
2. Student will obtain the prescribed counseling for a specified length of time and provide documentation to the UNCW Counseling Center on a regular basis.
  3. Student will submit to random drug testing as determined by the UNCW Counseling Center.
- h. Once a student has successfully completed the treatment program and is released by the UNCW Counseling Center, the student must submit a letter to the Associate Director and Program Coordinator requesting re-entry into practicum courses. If approved, the student will continue to be subject to the substance abuse policy and must report any relapse immediately to the course and/or Program Coordinator, as well as the Associate Director and Director.
5. **Confidentiality of Information Concerning Drug Use**  
Any information concerning a student's alleged or confirmed use of drugs shall be restricted to institutional personnel and North Carolina Board of Nursing as required, and to parents of minors or dependent students. No individual test results of the drug screen will be provided to clinical agencies. There will be a group list of those qualified to attend clinical as a result of the pre-clinical drug screen. No other release of such information will be made without the student's written consent, unless in response to appropriate judicial process. The institution, however, will not voluntarily disclose such information in the absence of a subpoena or court order.

### **Pre-practicum Criminal Background Check (CBC)**

A criminal background check must be completed by each student ~~two~~ prior to orientation, annually, and may be required as directed by the graduate school. The purpose for completing a criminal background check is to meet the requirements of UNCW's clinical agency partners to participate in practicum. Additional information can be found in the MSN Clinical Placement Handbook. Refusal complete a CBC will result in the withdrawal of the admission offer.

### **Student Injuries in Clinical Settings**

The faculty member should contact the course/program coordinator or the Associate Director to report student injuries, illnesses, etc. requiring emergency care. Clinical facilities typically provide emergency care, but at the expense of the student. Health insurance coverage is required; therefore, students should have appropriate information at all times. The student also has the option of seeing his/her private physician or the UNCW Student Health Center (910) 962-3280.

The faculty member and student are responsible for completing the appropriate Incident form of the clinical agency and the Incident form for the School of Nursing. A copy of both forms should be forwarded to the Associate Director in the Office of the Director for review, disposition as appropriate, and filing in School records.

### **Infectious/Communicable Disease Policy**

Infectious/communicable diseases are common and may be a threat to students and faculty of the School of Nursing. During the performance of clinical practice/research activities, students may have contact with infectious disease organisms. . This contact may expose the student to infectious agents, and may result in the student transmitting an infectious disease to other students, faculty, patients, family members, and subjects.

To help protect the health and safety of its students, as well as that of patients and subjects, the School of Nursing requires:

- A. Initial Infectious Disease Screening for nursing students
- B. Pre-exposure prophylactic immunization against specified infectious/communicable diseases for nursing students
- C. Post-exposure prophylactic follow-up/treatment of students following exposure to specified infectious diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis and Hepatitis B

### **Policy on Dismissal for Unsafe Practices**

The faculty of the School of Nursing has an academic, legal and ethical responsibility to protect the public and health care community from unsafe nursing practice. It is within this context that students can be disciplined or dismissed from the School of Nursing for practice which threatens or has the potential to threaten the safety of a patient, a family member or substitute familial person, another student, a faculty member or other health care provider.

- I. **Student Awareness:** All students in the School of Nursing are expected to be familiar with relevant policies and guidelines/procedures and are further expected to adhere to said policies, guidelines/procedures.
- II. **Definition:** an unsafe practice is defined as
  - A. An act or behavior of the type which violates the North Carolina *Nursing Practice Act*, Article 9 of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS 90-171.37; 90-171.44), and North Carolina Administrative Code <http://www.ncbon.com/>

- B. An act or behavior, which violates the *Code for Nurses* of the American Nurses' Association ([www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)).
- C. An act or behavior which threatens or has the potential to threaten the physical, emotional, mental or environmental safety of the patient, a family member or substitute familial person, another student, a faculty member or other health care provider.
- D. An act or behavior, which constitutes nursing practice for which a student is not authorized or educated at the time of the incident.

### III. INVESTIGATION AND EVALUATION OF AN UNSAFE PRACTICE

- A. When an incident occurs which a faculty member believes may constitute an unsafe practice, the faculty member shall immediately notify the student and instruct the student to leave the clinical setting. The faculty member will then notify the Course Coordinator, the Program Coordinator and Associate Director
- B. The course coordinator, the Program Coordinator, and the Associate Director will investigate the incident to determine the grounds that support or refute an unsafe practice incident(s). If the incident is minor, the faculty member, in consultation with the course coordinator, the Program Coordinator and Associate Director, may prescribe remedial work, simulation, or other appropriate instruction for the student. If the incident is not minor, the course coordinator and/or the Associate Director will notify the Department Chair.
- C. The Associate Director will review the findings and the recommendation of the faculty and will notify the Director of the School of Nursing of the resolve of the case. The Associate Director will notify the student if the decision is Dismissal from the School of Nursing. The student may appeal his/her case to the Director of the School of Nursing.

### IV. HEARING PROCESS

- A. The Director will refer the appeal to the Faculty Affairs and Student Affairs Committees for review. The respective committee chairpersons, will thereafter notify the student, the faculty member and the Associate Director as to the time and place for a hearing to determine whether an unsafe practice occurred and, if so, what resolution is recommended.
- B. The combined committee (Faculty Affairs and Student Affairs Committees, jointly) will hold a closed hearing at which time the faculty member and the Associate Director will be present and will provide

documentation and other oral or written evidence regarding the incident. The student will be present and will be given an opportunity to provide documentation and other oral or written evidence regarding the incident. A transcription of the hearing will be made.

- C. Following the factual presentation, the combined committee will convene in executive session to determine whether an unsafe practice occurred and to recommend a resolution of the incident. The committee will base its recommendation on the evidence presented at the hearing.
- D. The committee shall make its recommendation in writing to the Director. The committee may recommend the following resolutions: no finding of an unsafe practice; a reprimand to the student; remedial work or instruction for the student; or dismissal.

## **V. POST HEARING PROCESS**

- A. The Director may accept, reject or modify the committee's recommendation. The Director's decision will be based on the transcript of the hearing and report of the joint committee. The Director will notify the Associate Director, the faculty member and the student of the determination and sanction, if any.
- B. Dismissal from the School of Nursing does not constitute dismissal from the university. Revised 6/18/14/

### **Exit Survey**

Prior to graduation, each student will complete an exit survey about program satisfaction. If needed, the student can request an exit interview with the graduate coordinator.

### **Registration with NC Board of Nursing**

Once the MSN-FNP degree is conferred following graduation, the SON Director will forward a notarized letter to the NC Board of Nursing as outlined in the NP Rules: " A notarized letter of verification from the Director of the NP program including a) the type of NP program completed b) the date of completion of the program and c) that the program meets requirements as stated in the NP rules 21 NCAC-36085 or 21NCAC32M.080

## **FNP CERTIFICATION**

In preparation for graduation, FNP-track students must plan for FNP credentialing. (Information is provided for two certification contacts, for convenience/options.) Students may contact either the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) at <http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Certification.aspx>, or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioner (AANP) at [www.aanp.org](http://www.aanp.org), for details and to request the necessary form(s).

The American Nurses Credentialing Center certification catalogue/instructions can be accessed directly at <http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Certification/NurseSpecialties/FamilyNP.aspx>. In particular, students must obtain Form E—Nurse Practitioner Educational Preparation Verification, for initial credentialing, which can be found on page 16, with the UNCW code found on page 27, of the ANCC catalog. For additional information, students can contact ANCC, 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, Suite 100 West, Washington, DC 20024-2571, (202) 651-7000, (800) 284-2378, fax: (202) 651-7004.

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioner certification catalogue/instructions can be accessed directly at <http://www.aanpcertification.org/ptistore/control/certs/applications>. In particular, students must obtain the AANP Certification Program National Certification Examination Application, which is accessed via the web site. By submitting this application, verification is by official transcript displaying program completion and date degree conferred. For additional information, students can contact AANP, Certification Program, P. O. Box 12926, Austin, TX 78711, (512) 442-5202, fax: (512) 442-5221, or e-mail at [certification@aanp.org](mailto:certification@aanp.org).

## **FNP DESIGNATION**

Upon graduation, the UNCW diploma indicates that the degree earned is the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). The program—Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) designation—will appear on the UNCW transcript. The transcript reflects the MSN with FNP preparation.

## **UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS**

In choosing UNCW, you have become part of our community of scholars. We recognize that the UNCW learning experience is challenging and requires hard work. It also requires a commitment to make time available to do that hard work. The University expects you to make academics your highest priority by dedicating your time and energy to training your mind and acquiring knowledge. Academic success in critical thinking and problem solving prepares you for the changes and challenges you will encounter in the future. Our faculty and academic support resources are readily available as partners in this effort, but the primary responsibility for learning is yours.

## **TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

If you have any issues using Blackboard or other technical issues, contact the Technology Assistance Center at 910-962-4357 (HELP) or using the ticketing system: <http://www.uncw.edu/itsd/index.html>. Technical issues are not an excuse for a late assignment. You must contact them for assistance within a timely manner. All contact with the TAC is documented and I will contact them if you state you are having technology issues to confirm you have made contact and determine the outcome of your contact. For more information on the TAC, please click the following link: <http://uncw.teamdynamix.com/TDclient/home/>

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

All members of UNCW's community are expected to follow the academic Honor Code. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated in this class. All academic integrity violations will result in a failing grade for the course and will be reported to the University. Please read the UNCW Honor Code carefully (as covered in the UNCW Student Handbook): [www.uncw.edu/odos/honorcode](http://www.uncw.edu/odos/honorcode). Please be familiar with UNCW's position on plagiarism as outlined in the UNCW Student Handbook. Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty in which you take someone else's ideas and represent them as your own. Please note it is also possible to plagiarize yourself. If you use your work from a previous class or assignment in this class without proper citation, it is plagiarism (i.e., using the same paper, or substantial portions of the same paper, for two classes or assignments is not acceptable). It is always best to speak to the instructor prior to submitting a paper if there is a question regarding academic integrity.

## **UNCW STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY**

As an institution of higher learning, the University of North Carolina Wilmington represents a rich diversity of human beings among its faculty, staff, and students and is committed to maintaining a campus environment that values that diversity. Accordingly, the university supports policies, curricula, and co-curricular activities that encourage understanding of and appreciation for all members of its community and will not tolerate any harassment or disrespect for persons because of race, gender, age, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status, or relationship to other university constituents.

## **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

UNCW practices a zero tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273; Campus Police at 962-3184; or

Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit:  
<http://www.uncw.edu/safe-relate/campusResources.htm>

## **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Division of Student Affairs consists of fourteen functional departments, each of which is responsible for providing a variety of student support, service, and educational programs which are accessible to all members of the university community. The staff members are dedicated individuals known for their passion and commitment to implementing programs and services that affect student development over the course of a lifetime. Student Affairs provides excellent delivery of student services that are responsive to student needs and promotes the quality of life and education both inside and outside the classroom. We build institutional traditions and lifelong affiliations through creative programs, vibrant student organizations, and a living/learning environment built on core values and uncompromising principles. The Division is a leader and primary spokesperson for students. [For a complete listing of all student support services, please click this link.](#)

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

If you are a student with a disability and need accommodations, you must be registered with Disability Services (DePaolo Hall, 962-3746). Please provide your Accommodations Letter within the first week of class or as soon as possible. You should then meet with your instructor to make mutually agreed upon arrangements based upon the recommendations in the Accommodations Letter. For additional information please click the following link: <http://uncw.edu/disability/>. You can contact a representative by clicking on the following link and referring to the contact information for each representative: <http://uncw.edu/disability/about/contact.html>

## **UNIVERSITY LEARNING CENTER**

DePaolo Hall, 910.962.7857, [www.uncw.edu/ulc](http://www.uncw.edu/ulc)

The University Learning Center's (ULC) mission is to help students become successful, independent learners. Tutoring at the ULC is NOT remediation: the ULC offers a different type of learning opportunity for those students who want to increase the quality of their education. ULC services are free to all UNCW students and include the following:

- Learning Services (University Studies)  
<http://www.uncw.edu/ulc/learning/index.html>
- Math Services <http://www.uncw.edu/ulc/math/index.html>

- Study Skills <http://www.uncw.edu/ulc/study/index.html>
- Supplemental Instruction <http://www.uncw.edu/ulc/si/index.html>
- Writing Services <http://www.uncw.edu/ulc/writing/index.html>

**Appendix A Student's  
Consent Form  
SON Substance Abuse  
Policy**

Consent to the Substance Abuse Policy

I have read the UNC-W SON Substance Abuse Policy. I have been given an opportunity to ask any questions I may have about the policy. I understand my responsibilities in complying with the SON Substance Abuse Policy and any consequences regarding violation of the policy. I am voluntarily agreeing to participate in the UNCW SON program and abide by the Substance Abuse Policy.

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Signed this \_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(nursing student's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(printed name of student)

**Appendix B  
Notice of Drug  
Testing**

To: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Student)

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Faculty, School of Nursing)

Re: Reasonable Suspicion Drug  
Testing

Based on individual reasonable suspicion that you may be engaging in the impermissible use of drugs prohibited by the School of Nursing Program of the University of North Carolina Wilmington, you are to report to the Next Care Urgent Care Center located at 4815 Oleander Drive no later than \_\_\_\_\_(time) on \_\_\_\_\_(date). You will be required to provide a urine and/or blood sample and/or submit to an alcohol breathalyzer test at that time, in accordance with

- a) the policies and procedures established by the School of Nursing Program at the University of North Carolina Wilmington.
- b) your signed consent to the provisions of the policy and the program for Substance Abuse. Confirmed confidential written results shall be sent to:

Dr. Laurie Badzek, LLM, J.D, MS, RN, FAAN  
Director, School of Nursing  
University of North Carolina Wilmington  
601 South College Avenue  
Wilmington, North Carolina

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Nursing student) (Date & Time)

Clinical Faculty: \_\_\_\_\_(Date and  
Time)

In addition, please reference the “Substance Abuse” section in the current issue of the *University of North Carolina Wilmington Student Handbook and Code of Student Life*.