

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program objectives are designed to accomplish a Master of Science Degree through three degree programs: family nurse practitioner, nurse educator and nurse administration. Upon completion of the program, the graduate is prepared to:

- Use evidenced-based research to enhance nursing practice and promote healthy communities and diverse populations.
- Collaborate with others to influence the social, political and economic trends in health care delivery and health policy.
- Analyze ethical, legal, and professional standards within the health care system.
- Incorporate professional values, accountability, and responsibility into advanced nursing practice, education and administration.
- Integrate knowledge, theories and professional standards of nursing and related disciplines into advanced nursing roles.
- Demonstrate competency in an advanced nursing role in serving a cultural, ethnic and technological diverse society.
- Deliver specialized care to culturally diverse populations through health promotion, disease prevention and health maintenance activities.

DEGREE OFFERINGS

Master of Science (MSN) Family Nurse Practitioner

The Family Nurse Practitioner degree prepares advanced-practice nurses to provide primary health care to clients, families and communities. Students take core and advanced courses covering theoretical foundations for nursing practice, advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, nursing research and advanced health assessment. Nurse practitioner specialty courses emphasize the care of women and children, adult, and geriatric patients and their families. The total number of credit hours required is 53, which includes 780 hours of clinical practice. The curriculum consists of 14 semester hours of core content, 10 semester hours of advanced practice core content, 20 semester hours of nurse practitioner specialty content, 3 semester hours of electives and 6 semester hours of either thesis or non-thesis option. Clinical experiences occur in urban and rural settings. This course of study prepares nurses to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Family Nurse Practitioner Certification Examination or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioner Certification Examination.