OVERVIEW

The Department of Nursing offers graduate programs which prepare nurses to assume leadership roles within health care systems in a variety of settings, to expand knowledge of the discipline of nursing, and to acquire the foundation for doctoral study and continued professional development. The ability to work collaboratively on an interdisciplinary team, provide patient-centered care, employ evidence-based practice, access information technology, and apply quality improvement strategies are basic competencies expected of all graduates of these programs.

The following Graduate Nursing Programs are currently being offered:

Master of Science in Nursing - Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)
The Master of Science degree program for the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) prepares nurses for leadership positions through which evidenced-based care for groups of patients will be managed.

Direct Entry Clinical Nurse Leader (DCNL)
The Direct Entry into Clinical Nurse Leader (DCNL) is an accelerated, alternative-entry program for those who have not graduated from a nursing program, and who hold a baccalaureate or higher degree in another field. The program prepares the student to progress into the MS-CNL track. It is not a stand-alone accelerated RN program. The program begins with 36.5 credits and includes 810 clinical hours of full-time, year-round coursework to prepare for the NCLEX-RN exam and gain registered nurse licensure in the State of Vermont (not transferable to other states until completion of the DNP).

Direct Entry Program in Nursing (DEPN)
The Direct Entry Program in Nursing (DEPN) is an accelerated, alternative-entry program for those who have not graduated from a nursing program, and who hold a baccalaureate or higher degree in another field. The program prepares the student to progress into the DNP-Primary Care NP track. It is not a stand-alone accelerated RN program. The program begins with 36.5 credits and includes 810 clinical hours of full-time, year-round coursework to prepare for the NCLEX-RN exam and gain registered nurse licensure in the State of Vermont (not transferable to other states until completion of the DNP).

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program has two entry options; one for registered nurses with a baccalaureate or higher degree (in nursing or another field) who wish to practice as a nurse practitioner in Primary Care, and another for post master’s degree in nursing applicants who wish to pursue the DNP.

Post-Master’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
For candidates who have earned a MS degree in nursing and wish to pursue a DNP. Within the Post Master’s DNP there are two tracks: Primary Care DNP and Executive Nurse Leader DNP.

CNHS graduate nursing students are required to complete the CNHS mandates prior to matriculating into the program. Students must keep these requirements current throughout their program: Immunizations, CPR, HIPPA/OSHA training, annual PPD, and RN License. Some clinical sites require a Criminal Background check as well. It is required to be compliant with this process to participate in clinical courses/experiences. Complete details on CNHS Mandatories are available on the College website.

DEGREES

- Nursing AMP (http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/nursing/nursingamp/)
- Nursing M.S. (http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/nursing/nursingms/)
- Nursing Practice DNP (http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/nursing/nursingpracticednp/)

FACULTY

Dale, Rosemary Louise; Clinical Professor, Department of Nursing; EDD, Ball State University
Garbarino, Jason; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing; DNP, University of Vermont
Keiffer, Melanie; Assistant Professor, Department of Graduate Nursing, DNP, Vanderbilt University
Laurent, Jennifer S.; Associate Professor, Department of Nursing; PHD, Duquesne University
Lewis, Laura Foran; Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing; PHD, University of Connecticut
Martin, Lili; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing; DNP, University of Vermont
Nagle, Rebecca; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing; DNP, University of Vermont
Palumbo, Mary Val; Professor, Department of Nursing; DNP, Rush Medical College
Pelski, Jean; Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Nursing; PHD, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Courses

GRNS 300. Professional Nursing Issues. 2 Credits.
Issues affecting nursing practice provide framework for examination of and socialization into professional nursing. The historical, legal, ethical, cultural, structural, and economic aspects of nursing practice will be explored. Prerequisite: Admission to DEPN program. Co-requisites: GRNS 301, GRNS 302, GRNS 303. Pre/co-requisite: GRNS 313.
GRNS 302. Sci Nsg: Adults Across Life I. 3 Credits.
Identification and treatment of human responses to pathophysiological problems in adults with acute, chronic, or terminal conditions, with principles of general acute nursing practice emphasized. Prerequisite: Admission to DEPN program. Co-requisites: GRNS 300, PRNU 228, GRNS 303, NURS 220.

GRNS 303. Practicum: Adults Lifespan I. 4 Credits.
An initial experience in the nursing lab will be followed with a supervised clinical nursing practicum of adults with acute, chronic, or terminal conditions. Prerequisite: Admission to the DEPN program. Co-requisites: GRNS 300, PRNU 228, GRNS 302, NURS 220.

GRNS 304. Pract: Adults Lifespan II. 1.25 Credit.
80 hour supervised clinical nursing practicum provides an immersion experience in the medical/surgical acute care setting. Prerequisites: GRNS 300, PRNU 228, GRNS 302, GRNS 303, NURS 220.

GRNS 305. Pract: Complex Nsg Care Adults. 2.5 Credits.
Precepted clinical practice in adult acute care. Students will focus on an area in which more depth is desired. Prerequisite: GRNS 304. Co-requisites: GRNS 306, GRNS 308, GRNS 309, GRNS 312, PRNU 232.

GRNS 306. Sci of Nsg: Mental Health. 3 Credits.

GRNS 307. Practicum: Mental Health. 1.25 Credit.
Faculty guide students in clinical settings to maximize exposure to all aspects of the nursing process with adults having selected psychiatric/mental health problems. Prerequisite: GRNS 305. Pre/Co-requisite: GRNS 306.

GRNS 308. Sci of Nsg: Women & Newborns. 2 Credits.
Focus on healthy maternal-newborn care, and promotion of wellness and family integrity during transition within a family-centered framework. Prerequisite: GRNS 304. Co-requisites: GRNS 305, GRNS 306, GRNS 309, GRNS 310, GRNS 312.

Attention is focused on provision of nursing care to the expectant, laboring, or post-partum mother and to the newborn infant. Prerequisite: GRNS 304. Pre/Co-requisite: GRNS 308.

GRNS 311. Practicum: Children. 1.25 Credit.
Faculty guide students in clinical settings to maximize exposure to all aspects of the nursing process with children having selected pathophysiological problems. Prerequisite: GRNS 310. Pre/co-requisites: GRNS 307, GRNS 314, GRNS 315.

GRNS 312. Sci of Nsg: Adults Lifespan II. 2 Credits.

GRNS 314. Public Health Nursing. 2 Credits.
Emphasis on the epidemiological and biostatistical indicators of population health, methods of community health analysis, structure and function of federal, state and local health organizations. Prerequisites: GRNS 310, GRNS 311, GRNS 312. Co-requisite: GRNS 315.

GRNS 315. Practicum: Public Health Nurs. 2 Credits.
Statewide population-focused public health nursing experience involving needs assessment, program development, case management, health promotion, disease prevention, and protection strategies, with opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration. Prerequisites: GRNS 311, GRNS 312. Co-requisite: GRNS 314.

GRNS 321. Professional Role Development. 3 Credits.
Examination of role development in advanced generalist and advanced nursing practice; including the development of competencies, licensing, and other specialized roles in nursing.

GRNS 322. Org, Deliv & Finan Hlth Care. 3 Credits.
Structure, organization, financing, and delivery of health care through complex systems in the United States. Focus on economic, social, ethical, political, and global structures. Prerequisite: Registered nurse licensure or matriculated graduate nursing student.

GRNS 324. Theoretical Foundation Nsg Sci. 3 Credits.
Exploration of philosophy of science, theory, and development of nursing knowledge. Nursing and non-nursing philosophies and theories relevant to advanced nursing practice will be discussed. Prerequisites: Graduate standing or by faculty permission.

GRNS 325. Genetics for Clinicians. 3 Credits.
This course provides an overview of contemporary human genetics and genomics with application to clinical practice. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. Cross-listed with: PATH 325.

GRNS 326. Hlth Care Eth, Policy, Politics. 3 Credits.
Examination of the processes of policy analysis and development with focus on advocacy. Prerequisite: Registered nurse licensure or matriculated graduate nursing student.

GRNS 327. Adv Topics in Hlth Informatics. 3 Credits.
This course provides an overview of informatics, the transformation of data into information, knowledge, decisions and actions to improve outcomes. This course offers the student an opportunity to study advanced topics in health informatics. Topics vary by offering; periodic offering at intervals that may exceed four years. Pre/Co-requisites: GRNS 322, GRNS 400.

GRNS 328. Quality in Healthcare. 3 Credits.
Introduces students to the principles and practices of health care quality and quality improvement. Principles in the design and management of continual improvement activities will be presented and applied. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. Cross-listed with: CTS 302.
GRNS 335. Adv Pathophysiology. 3 Credits.
In-depth examination of the biological and physical manifestations of disease as they correlate with pathophysiology to guide clinical decision making of the APRN and CNL. Prerequisites: RN license or completion of DEPN. Pre/Co-requisite: GRNS 404.

GRNS 343. CNL Project Seminar I. 1 Credit.
Provides an overview of the role of the Clinical Nurse Leader as a change agent at the point of care. Prerequisites: GRNS 327, GRNS 335. Co-requisites: GRNS 328, NH 399.

GRNS 344. CNL Practicum I. 0.5 Credits.
Students explore the clinical microsystem and identify areas to improve patient safety and health care outcomes. Students complete a minimum of 60 practicum hours in a practice setting(s) with clinical mentor(s) agreed upon by the student and the course faculty. Pre/Co-requisites: GRNS 326, GRNS 327, GRNS 328, GRNS 335, GRNS 343, NH 399.

GRNS 345. CNL Project Seminar II. 1 Credit.
Focuses on further refinement and completion of the CNL project proposal. The CNL project emphasis is on unit and organizational culture, structure and function, and effectiveness while considering relevant cost, quality, and patient outcome data. Prerequisites: GRNS 343, GRNS 328. Co-requisites: GRNS 321, GRNS 322, GRNS 406.

GRNS 346. CNL Practicum II. 0.5 Credits.
Students explore the clinical microsystem and identify areas to improve patient safety and health care outcomes in the inpatient and outpatient setting. These clinical opportunities will inform the CNL project. A minimum of 60 practicum hours will be completed in a setting(s) with clinical mentor(s) agreed upon by the student and the course instructor. Prerequisites: GRNS 343, GRNS 344. Co-requisites: GRNS 321, GRNS 322, GRNS 341, GRNS 406.

GRNS 347. CNL Project Seminar III. 0.5 Credits.
Students complete the implementation phase of the CNL project and initiate project evaluation measures. Details of process measures and outcomes, observed associations between outcomes, interventions, and relevant contextual elements, consequences of project implementation, and analytic strategies will be emphasized. Prerequisites: GRNS 345, GRNS 346. Co-requisites: GRNS 348.

GRNS 348. CNL Clin Immersion Practicum. 2.5 Credits.
Designed to implement and evaluate the CNL quality improvement project. Students will implement and evaluate the select microsystem change aimed to improve patient safety and outcomes. Students will evaluate the impact of the practice change and disseminate findings and implications for practice change. Prerequisites: GRNS 341, GRNS 346. Co-requisite: GRNS 343.

GRNS 390. Master’s Project. 1-3 Credits.
Self-designed clinical paper or innovative production pertinent to advanced nursing practice. Prerequisites: GRNS 321, GRNS 322, GRNS 323, GRNS 324; approval of project committee. Pre/Co-requisite: Comprehensive Exam (completed prior to project presentation).

GRNS 392. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GRNS 394. Independent Graduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Graduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GRNS 395. Independent Study. 1-6 Credits.
Individual work in graduate nursing with a base of theory, research, or advanced practice. Prerequisite: Permission of academic advisor and sponsoring faculty.

GRNS 396. Advanced Special Topics. 0.5-18 Credits.
Topics of interest to graduate nursing which are based on theory, research or advanced practice. Course content will deal with topics beyond the scope of existing formal courses or DNP project. Pre/Co-requisite: Instructor permission.

GRNS 400. Population-Based Hlth for APN. 3 Credits.
The role of advanced practitioners in the care of populations with an emphasis on the U. S. health care system. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

GRNS 401. Leadership of HlthCare Systems. 3 Credits.
Planning and implementation of programs, projects or systems of health care delivery. Prerequisite: GRNS 322.

GRNS 404. Adv Pharmacology APRN. 3 Credits.
In-depth examination of the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of select drugs for acute and chronic health conditions. Ethical and legal standards of prescriptive authority explored. Pre/Co-requisite: GRNS 335.

GRNS 405. Adv Neuropsychopharmacology. 3 Credits.
In-depth examination of the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drugs used to treat individuals with acute and chronic pain, neurologic and psychiatric illnesses across the lifespan. Prerequisites: GRNS 335, GRNS 404.

GRNS 406. Adv Hlth Assessment. 3 Credits.
Development of advanced knowledge and skills in systematic collection, organization, interpretation, and communication of data necessary for formulation of nursing and medical diagnoses. Lab fee required. Prerequisite: Basic physical examination course. Pre/co-requisite: GRNS 335.

GRNS 407. Opt Hlth & Mgt Com Hlth Issues. 2 Credits.
Assessment and optimization of health of adolescents and adults. Diagnostic reasoning and management of common acute health conditions. Prerequisites: GRNS 335, GRNS 404, GRNS 406. Co-requisites: GRNS 405, GRNS 408.
GRNS 408. Pract:Opt Hlth&Mgt Com Hlt Iss. 1 Credit.
Assessment and optimization of health of adolescents and adults.
Diagnostic reasoning and management of common acute health conditions.

GRNS 409. Pediatric Concepts APRN. 3 Credits.
APN care to children and their families with an emphasis on the developmental, psychosocial, cultural, ethical, and spiritual needs of children and families. Pre/Co-requisites: GRNS 405, GRNS 407, GRNS 408.

GRNS 410. Primary Care Mgmt Child & Adoles. 3 Credits.
Application in a clinical setting(s): assessment, evaluation, diagnostic reasoning, and management of common episodic and chronic health conditions in provision of primary care to children and adolescents.

GRNS 411. Practicum: Child & Adolescents. 1 Credit.
Application in a clinical setting(s): assessment, evaluation, diagnostic reasoning, and management of common episodic and chronic health conditions in provision of primary care to children and adolescents.

GRNS 412. Adv Nsg Prac of Older Adult. 3 Credits.
Focus on health and disease and associated care and treatment of older persons by the advanced practice nurse.
Prerequisites: GRNS 335, GRNS 404, GRNS 406, GRNS 407, GRNS 408. Pre/Co-requisite: GRNS 405.

GRNS 413. Practicum: Nursing Older Adult. 0.5 Credits.
Practice assessment and care coordination skills in a practicum working with older adults in a variety of settings.
Prerequisites: GRNS 407, GRNS 408. Co-requisite: GRNS 412.

GRNS 414. Prim Care Acute&Comm Hlth Cond. 3 Credits.
Focus will be on the assessment, evaluation and management of common episodic conditions in primary care FNP & AGNP.

GRNS 415. Practicum:Acute&Com Cond AGNP. 1 Credit.
Practicum experience for assessment, evaluation and management of common episodic conditions in primary care AGNP.

GRNS 416. Practicum:Acute&Com Cond FNP. 1 Credit.
Practicum experience for assessment, evaluation and management of common episodic conditions in primary care FNP Track.

GRNS 417. Mgt Women & Gendered Hlth Care. 2.25 Credits.
Advanced nursing practice focusing on the assessment, diagnosis, management, and evaluation of acute and chronic health conditions commonly encountered in the area of women's and gendered related health conditions.
Prerequisites: GRNS 407, GRNS 408, GRNS 412. Co-requisite: GRNS 418.

GRNS 418. Practicum:Women Gender Spclty. 0.75 Credits.
Practicum experience for assessment, evaluation and management of common conditions of women and other gendered health conditions in primary care for FNP/AGNP. Additional practicum hours in various specialty settings.

GRNS 419. Prim Care Chron/Cmplx Hth Cond. 3 Credits.
Focuses on the refinement diagnostic and therapeutic interventions in the provision of primary health care to individuals and families with chronic and complex health conditions.
Prerequisites: GRNS 414, GRNS 415 or GRNS 416 and Comprehensive Exam.
Co-requisites: GRNS 420 or GRNS 421.

GRNS 420. Practicum:Chrn&Cmplx Cond AGNP. 2.5 Credits.
Practicum focuses on the refinement diagnostic and therapeutic interventions in the provision of primary health care to individuals and families with chronic and complex health conditions.
Prerequisites: GRNS 412, GRNS 414, GRNS 415. Co-requisite: GRNS 419.

GRNS 421. Practicum:ChrnCmplx Cond FNP. 2.5 Credits.
Focuses on the refinement diagnostic and therapeutic interventions in the provision of primary health care to individuals and families with chronic and complex health conditions.
Prerequisites: GRNS 412, GRNS 414, GRNS 416. Co-requisite: GRNS 419.

GRNS 422. DNP Project Seminar I. 1 Credit.
Provides structure for the development of a conceptual framework and methodological approach to the DNP project; a project where a clinically relevant problem is addressed through application of the best evidence.
Prerequisites: GRNS 321, GRNS 324, NH 399, GRNS 326, GRNS 327.
Pre/Co-requisite: GRNS 328.

GRNS 423. DNP Project Practicum I. 1 Credit.
This practicum guides project initiation including summary tasks and milestones, business plan, identification of resources assigned to tasks, and task interdependencies. Project monitoring, reporting, and management are required.
Prerequisites: GRNS 422.

GRNS 424. DNP Project Seminar II. 1 Credit.
Students will prepare and implement the DNP Project. Prerequisites: GRNS 422, GRNS 423. Co-requisite: GRNS 425.

GRNS 425. DNP Project Practicum II. 1 Credit.
DNP project will be implemented including critical analysis of data and evidence for improving nursing practice. Project monitoring, reporting, and management are required.
Prerequisites: GRNS 422, GRNS 423. Co-requisite: GRNS 424.
GRNS 426. DNP Project Seminar III. 1 Credit.
Requires the analysis, completion, and dissemination of the DNP project for the preparation of advanced practice nurse with the practice doctorate. Prerequisites: GRNS 424, GRNS 425, and GRNS 427 or GRNS 428.

GRNS 427. Ex Nurse Leader Role Transform. 1 Credit.
This individualized practicum focuses on synthesis and application of prerequisite learning in a mentored nurse executive role.

GRNS 428. Executive Nurse Leader Immersi. 2 Credits.
This practicum is a continuation of the role transformation learning experience. Prerequisite: GRNS 427.

GRNS 430. Practicum: Clin Immersion APRN. 0.5 Credits.
Provides an immersion clinical practicum of 60 hours for the primary care management of acute and common health problems encountered in primary care. To provide an opportunity for the student to promote optimal levels of well-being and functioning. Prerequisites: GRNS 407, GRNS 408, GRNS 412, GRNS 417, GRNS 418.

GRNS 435. Health and Culture: Oaxaca. 3 Credits.
Gain appreciation for cultural diversity by exploring the social, psychological, health practices and historical trajectories of Oaxacan perceptions within the overarching theme of health. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and instructor permission.

GRNS 491. Doctoral Dissertation Research. 1-18 Credits.

GRNS 494. Independent Graduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Graduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GRNS 496. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.