Psychiatric Mental Health (PMH) Specialty Specific Courses

Course Number: PMH601
Course Title: Foundations of Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nursing
Credits: 5
Course Description: This course introduces the student to the history and progression of mental health disorders by examining psychosocial, personality, and psychopathology theories as they apply to individuals with mental disorders of across the lifespan. Classroom and clinical activities provide students an opportunity to synthesize and apply psychotherapeutic theories and concepts as they develop assessment and interview skills. The introduction of standardized bio-psycho-social data collecting tools and psychiatric rating scales will provide structure for the assessment/interview process. Students will further their emersion into the development and progression of mental disorders with an overview of the classification system in the DSM-IV-TR. The culmination of these activities is designed to foster critical thinking and help students develop a broader view of mental disorder formation.

Course Number: PMH602
Course Title: Advanced Diagnosis of Mental Disorders across the Lifespan
Credits: 4
Course Description: This course builds on the assessment course providing the student with knowledge and skills to perform advanced clinical differential diagnoses and management of individuals with mental disorders using the criteria of the DSM-IV-TR. This course introduces special population with mental health needs in the military and federal health settings. Advanced critical thinking skills will be honed as the assessment process becomes more comprehensive, requiring additional data from collaborative sources (i.e. psychological tests, lab work, consultation with other providers, etc.). Students will be challenged to develop a treatment plan with interventions based on their diagnosis that include selecting a therapy mode, follow up intervals, medication recommendations, and referral management.

Course Number: PMH603
Course Title: Therapeutic Modalities
Credits: 3
Course Description: This course builds on the assessment and diagnosis and management course providing the student with knowledge and skills to perform a variety of evidenced based psychotherapeutic interventions and management across the lifespan. This course builds on the PMH 602 Diagnosis and Management Course by adding knowledge and critical thinking skills related to treatment modalities in the context of mental health needs in the military and federal health settings. Advanced critical thinking skills will continue to be applied as the assessment and diagnosis and management process becomes more comprehensive, requiring additional data from current research and collaborative sources. Students will be challenged to develop a treatment plan with interventions based on best practices and individual treatment needs that promote preventive and secondary mental health interventions.
Course Number: PMH604
Course Title: Psychopharmacology
Credits: 5
Course Description: This course is designed to assist students in obtaining the necessary psychopharmacologic content required to prepare them to function in an advanced practice role as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. This course builds on the core nurse practitioner pharmacology course and diagnostic and neuroscience content from previous courses. The focus of this course is on additional categories of medications specific to individuals with psychiatric illness and mental disorders incorporating cultural needs and lifespan development. This course will challenge student critical thinking and problem solving skills as they apply psychopharmacologic principles to a wide array of chronic and acute clinical conditions. Students will learn to synthesize information as it relates to psychopharmacological treatment of disease components related to operational, humanitarian and homeland defense health risks.

Course Number: PMH605
Course Title: Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nursing Specialty Practicum
Credits: 1
Course Description: This course covers “Topics in Deployment Psychology” focusing on areas that impact service members and their families to include: issues during deployment cycle, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), sexual assault, and sleep needs. Each topic area is presented by experts in the mental health field from the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine perspective. Training in two therapy models effective in reducing the effects of PTSD, Prolonged Exposure Therapy (PE) and Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) will be offered. Student must choose one therapy model, participate in the training, and write a paper based on a case study as to how the chosen therapy would be utilized. Thus, the practicum provides the student valuable insight into the global mental health care needs and assets currently available and in practice that meet the psychological demands of our nation’s multi-service armed forces including their families.

Course Number: PMH606
Course Title: Operational Readiness for Advanced Psychiatric Practice
Credits: 5
Course Description: Military Contingency Medicine (MCM) is the capstone course in the Uniformed Services University Military Unique Curriculum. This unique curriculum is specifically designed to prepare medical and advanced practice nursing students to provide the highest quality health care for servicemen and women in austere environments. MCM augments the student’s core clinical knowledge with unique medical training that enables them to excel as a General Medical Officer (GMO) in an operational setting. This training includes a three week didactic, clinical, and lab sessions on specific medical topics that would be seen in an operational environment. Previous to the start of MCM, the students will be enrolled in Advanced Trauma Life Saving Course which they will be taught a simplified and standardized approach to trauma patients developed by American College of Surgeons. The course will culminate with a two one day field exercise “Operation BUSHMASTER”. The course is based on the adult learner model, which reinforces didactic discussion with small group practical exercises and the culminating field exercise in order to enhance retention.
Course Number: PMH607  
Course Title: Treatment of Substance Abuse Disorders Across the Lifespan  
Credits: 2  
Course Description: This course is designed to introduce substance abuse treatment theory and provide the student with opportunities to synthesize and apply the principles of advanced practice psychiatric nursing in a substance abuse treatment facility. Under the guidance of a qualified preceptor, the student will apply principles of the advanced practice psychiatric nurse practitioner role, utilizing theoretical and experiential knowledge from all previous course work. The clinical practice requirements are based on the expected competencies for the advanced practice nurse in psychiatric mental health nursing as outlined by the American Nurses Association (2006) and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (2003). Clinical conference sessions are designed to assist the student to analyze multiple variables in mental health and illness and, using a problem-solving framework, to determine optimal psychiatric mental health care for individuals in substance abuse treatment setting.

Course Number: GSN707  
Course Title: Integration and Application of Family Theory in Primary Care  
Credits: 2  
Course Description: This course is designed to integrate theories of family health and well-being with particular emphasis on the military family. Integrated throughout are concepts of family centered theories and assessment tools used for analysis and planning. Topics addressed include problem identification, intervention planning and health promotion to optimize family function in the context of prevailing culture and population health. Content specific to military families include stress and coping, deployment separation, reintegration, and care of the wounded warrior within interdisciplinary and interprofessional teams.

Course Number: GSN722  
Course Title: Military Sexual Assault  
Credits: 1  
Course Description: The online course is a multi-media, inter-professional, modular course on Military Sexual Assault (MSA) that will focus on the process of eliciting a MSA related H&P from both the victim (male or female) as well as legal considerations (to include restricted vs. unrestricted reporting), forensic evidence collection and interpretation, and treatment. This program takes an Inter-Professional education perspective and involves members of School of medicine and the Graduate School of Nursing.

This introductory course provides the foundation for students with the necessary content on the assessment and treatment of sexual assault to prepare them to function in an advanced practice registered nursing (APRN) role in the military setting. The course builds on core health assessment, adult primary care, and mental health diagnostic content from previous courses. The focus of this course is on the interaction between the victim (who suffered the trauma), the outcome (the justice system), and treatment options. Students will learn to synthesize evidence-based forensic science principles, assessment of the victim and/or suspect, diagnostic considerations, reporting and legal process, and treatment of the impact of the victimization related to health risks.

The interdisciplinary component is achieved in several ways: medical and nursing students will participate in a facilitator guided discussion in small groups involving the GSN and
SOM after a Simulation Center event caring for the victims. Also, interdisciplinary collaboration will be met during a Bushmaster sexual assault scenario.

Course Number: GSN801  
Course Title: DNP Practicum for Nurse Practitioner Practice I  
Credits: 4  
Course Description: This is the first of three residency courses that build upon the scientific, theoretical and clinical foundations taught during the first two years of the DNP curriculum. This 3 course series focuses on transitioning students into the full primary care FNP role. At the end of the 3 semester residency period, students will be prepared to apply theories, standards of practice and evidence-based research findings to the care of increasingly complex patients, populations and systems leading to improved practice and health care delivery.

In FNP Residency I, students will integrate and synthesize knowledge, scholarly reading, educational offerings and clinical experience to develop individual patient evidence based case narrative demonstrating their ability to appraise and present a complex clinical case. Emphasis will be placed on the continuing development of critical thinking and decision making skills necessary to individualize treatment plans and interventions to optimize patient outcomes.

Across all three courses students will be prepared to independently manage healthcare challenges ranging from straightforward to complex, while developing collaborative patient, population and professional partnerships. They will be asked to function as a practice specialist/consultant in the resolution of clinical problems through refinement of communication, reflection and scholarly practice. While employing analytic skills to evaluate and implement evidence-based, direct and indirect patient care across a variety of healthcare settings, students will also apply principles of health policy and health care delivery systems to the care of individuals, populations and the systems in which they practice.

Course Number: GSN802  
Course Title: DNP Practicum for Nurse Practitioner Practice II  
Credits: 4  
Course Description: This is the second of three residency courses that build upon the scientific, theoretical and clinical foundations taught during the first two years of the DNP curriculum. This 3 course series focuses on transitioning students into the full primary care FNP role. At the end of the 3 semester residency period, students will be prepared to apply theories, standards of practice and evidence-based research findings to the care of increasingly complex patients, populations and systems leading to improved practice and health care delivery.

In FNP Residency II, students will develop a population focused evidence based case narrative demonstrating their ability to critically appraise and synthesize the care of the population with complex clinical needs. Emphasis will be placed on expanding critical thinking and decision making skills needed to address issues unique to management of populations with complex healthcare needs.

Across all three residency courses students will be prepared to independently manage healthcare challenges ranging from straightforward to complex, while developing collaborative patient, population and professional partnerships. They will be asked to function as a practice specialist/consultant in the resolution of clinical problems through refinement of communication, reflection and scholarly practice. While employing analytic skills to evaluate and implement evidence-based, direct and indirect patient care across a variety of healthcare settings, students will...
also apply principles of health policy and health care delivery systems to the care of individuals, populations and the systems in which they practice.

Course Number: GSN803  
Course Title: DNP Practicum for Nurse Practitioner Practice III  
Credits: 4  
Course Description: This is the third of three residency courses that build upon the scientific, theoretical and clinical foundations taught during the first two years of the DNP curriculum. This 3 course series focuses on transitioning students into the full primary care FNP role. At the end of the 3 semester residency period, students will be prepared to apply theories, standards of practice and evidence-based research findings to the care of increasingly complex patients, populations and systems leading to improved practice and health care delivery.

In FNP Residency III, students will develop an evidence based case narrative demonstrating their ability to critically appraise and synthesize care of the populations typically managed using an inter- and/or intra-professional approach, because they may have special support, educational, cultural, safety, economic or transitional care needs. Emphasis will be placed on expanding leadership and communication skills critical for improving healthcare outcomes, optimizing the function of inter-professional teams and care delivery approaches. Across all three courses students will be prepared to independently manage healthcare challenges ranging from straightforward to complex, while developing collaborative patient, population and professional partnerships. They will be asked to function as a practice specialist/consultant in the resolution of clinical problems through refinement of communication, reflection and scholarly practice. While employing analytic skills to evaluate and implement evidence-based, direct and indirect patient care across a variety of healthcare settings, students will also apply principles of health policy and health care delivery systems to the care of individuals, populations and the systems in which they practice.

Course Number: PMH803  
Course Title: Applied Clinical Concepts I  
Credits: 4  
Course Description: This course builds on the previous first and second year DNP curriculum by providing the student with knowledge and skills to perform a variety of evidenced based psychotherapeutic interventions across the lifespan within a military and federal health care setting. Advanced critical thinking skills will continue to be applied as the assessment and diagnosis and management process becomes more comprehensive, requiring additional data from current evidenced based research and collaborative sources. Students will be challenged to develop a treatment plans and interventions based on best practices that incorporate individual treatment needs that promote preventive and secondary mental health interventions.

Course Number: PMH804  
Course Title: Applied Clinical Concepts II  
Credits: 3  
Course Description: This course builds on the previous first and second year DNP curriculum by providing the student with knowledge and skills to perform a variety of evidenced based psychotherapeutic interventions across the lifespan within a military and federal health care setting. Advanced critical thinking skills will continue to be applied as the assessment and
diagnosis and management process becomes more comprehensive, requiring additional data from current evidenced based research and collaborative sources. Students will be challenged to develop a treatment plans and interventions based on best practices that incorporate individual treatment needs that promote preventive and secondary mental health interventions.

**Course Number:** PMH805  
**Course Title:** Applied Clinical Concepts III  
**Credits:** 4  
**Course Description:** This course builds on the previous first and second year DNP curriculum by providing the student with knowledge and skills to perform a variety of evidenced based psychotherapeutic interventions across the lifespan within a military and federal health care setting. Advanced critical thinking skills will continue to be applied as the assessment and diagnosis and management process becomes more comprehensive, requiring additional data from current evidenced based research and collaborative sources. Students will be challenged to develop a treatment plans and interventions based on best practices that incorporate individual treatment needs that promote preventive and secondary mental health interventions.