

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF BACCALAUREATE AND
GRADUATE NURSING

MSN STUDENT INFORMATION

2008-2009

INTRODUCTION

This information booklet is for those students entering Eastern Kentucky University's Master of Science in Nursing program or Post-MSN certificate program. The booklet is not intended to replace the Graduate Catalog and the University Handbook for Students, but is provided for informational purposes to assist students' entry into and completion of the graduate program in nursing. Students should always consult with their advisors and with the Department Chair or the Graduate Coordinator to obtain the latest information, answers to their particular questions, or clarification on their particular circumstances.

All statements in this hand book are announcements of present policy only and are subject to change without prior notice. Nothing contained in this publication is intended to create nor shall be construed as creating a contract, either express or implied, or guarantee for any term or for any specific procedures. The department reserves the right to make changes in its policies, procedures, handbook, academic curricula, informational and printed materials, and all other items whenever needed to fulfill and properly exercise its educational responsibilities and objectives in ensuring a quality educational program.

Revised April 2008

CONTENTS

PREAMBLE.....	4
PHILOSOPHY.....	5
MISSION STATEMENT.....	7
PROGRAM GOALS	8
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR MSN PROGRAM	8
ADMISSION TO MSN PROGRAM	9
Graduate School Application Process	9
Department Application Process	10
References	10
Deadlines for Application Submission.....	10
Selection of Applicants for Admission	10
Admission Requirements	11
Class Offering Locations.....	11
AFTER ADMISSION	11
Changing Options.....	11
Delaying Enrollment.....	11
Bookstore Services.....	12
Library and Information Technology Services.....	12
CONTACTING THE GRADUATE SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENT FOR INFORMATION	12
ADVISING AND REGISTRATION	13
Advising Process.....	13
FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STUDY.....	13
CURRICULUM & COURSE DESCRIPTIONS	14
Progression Plans.....	14
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS.....	17
CLINICAL PRACTICUM COURSES	23
Health Assessment Competency.....	23
REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR CLINICALS	24
PROGRESSION AND COMPLETION	24
Time Limit on Completion.....	24
MEETING THE GRADUATE SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS.....	25
PROBATION	25
GRADING	25
ATTENDANCE	25
WITHDRAWAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY.....	26
MSN PROGRAM PROGRESSION, READMISSION, AND REINSTATEMENT POLICY.....	27
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT	30
APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION	30
RESEARCH PROJECT.....	31
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION.....	31
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION RATING FOR CANDIDATE.....	33
CERTIFICATION EXAMS	37
CHECKLIST OF IMPORTANT DATES AND REQUIREMENTS.....	38

POST-MSN CERTIFICATE INFORMATION	39
APPENDICES:	42
APPENDIX 1: Bloodborne Pathogens	42
APPENDIX 2: Informed Consent	45
APPENDIX 3: Academic Honesty/Academic Integrity	46

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATE NURSING

PREAMBLE

Eastern Kentucky University's Baccalaureate Nursing Program was organized in 1971. In the same year, the Meditation Chapel was dedicated and its influence can be seen in the B.S.N. cap and pin. The program became part of the newly established College of Allied Health and Nursing in 1975. In 1995, the Master of Science in Nursing Program was approved and implemented. In 1999, the college name was changed to the College of Health Sciences.

The beliefs of the faculty and students relevant to nursing and nursing program development are set forth in the statement of philosophy which follows. The philosophy guides the educational program and learning environment, responsibilities and accountability. The philosophy mandates that faculty, students and graduates monitor the rapidly changing needs of nursing and society, and adapt philosophically and practically to necessary changes. The precepts to be upheld and expected are communicated through the philosophy.

The Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing within the College of Health Sciences functions as an autonomous educational unit deriving the broad outlines of its aims and functions from the statement of purpose of Eastern Kentucky University, which emphasizes its purposes, in order of priority, as teaching, public service, and research. The University accepts its responsibilities to provide intellectual and cultural opportunities; to provide an understanding of humans and their aspirations; to enable effective, efficient communications; and to prepare productive and responsive citizens.¹ The College of Health Sciences philosophy states that identification of human values comes through learning, that each person has the right to define these values and to develop one's capacity to the utmost.² The foundations of professional nursing education--the development of intellectual capabilities, the development of interpersonal acumen and understanding and the acquisition of technical skill--are congruent with the responsibilities and purposes of the University and of the College of Health Sciences. Graduate nursing education at the Master level builds on baccalaureate nursing education and reaffirms the philosophies and purposes of Eastern Kentucky University and the College of Health Sciences.

¹Eastern Kentucky University Bulletin, General Catalog

²Philosophic Statement, College of Health Sciences

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATE NURSING

PHILOSOPHY
of the Baccalaureate and
Graduate Nursing Programs

Consistent with the statements of philosophy of Eastern Kentucky University and the College of Health Sciences, the faculty of the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing subscribe to the following beliefs about client, environment, health, nursing, professional nursing practice, baccalaureate nursing education, and graduate nursing education.

CLIENT

Clients include individuals, families, and defined populations. Each client is unique and merits respect, support and dignity. Clients develop and adapt in recognizable phases and patterns. Clients continually seek meaning and purpose. Through participation in life's experiences, clients grow, assume responsibility and develop towards levels of maturity. Clients are an integration of biological, psychological, sociocultural, and spiritual spheres.

ENVIRONMENT

Environment is the aggregate of all objects, conditions, forces, and ideas that interact with clients. The environment influences health potential. A health promoting environment facilitates movement toward high level wellness. Society is the human subsystem of environment. Society is an open system and culture is the vehicle by which the system is perpetuated, regulated, and differentiated.

Communities serve as subsystems of society in which interaction occurs and the delivery of health care takes place. The non-human elements of environment are the physical, chemical, and biological systems with which clients interact. Environmental stimuli challenge development and maturation of clients.

HEALTH

Health is a dynamic state of equilibrium between clients and their environments. Health can vary on a continuum from optimum health to ill health, including death. Optimum health is defined as the presence of structural and functional integrity reflecting a client's biological, psychological, sociocultural, and spiritual potential. Health is dependent on the client's ability, willingness, and resources to meet and engage the environment in a manner that potentiates optimal health. Actual and perceived health potentials depend on value systems, cultural influences, educational experiences, genetics and variables which are environmental, biological, psychological, sociocultural, and spiritual in nature. As these variables shift and change, so does

the health status of clients.

NURSING

Nursing is an autonomous, caring profession which assists clients to protect, maintain, improve or gain optimal levels of health. Nursing is a science and an art with the goal of providing for the health and healing needs of clients. While respecting clients' rights to self-determination, nursing provides holistic care during health, illness, and death.

Nursing influences health and healing through relationship centered care. Shared understandings of health and illness are necessary for therapeutic nurse-client relationships.

BACCALAUREATE NURSING EDUCATION

Preparation for professional nursing practice requires the broad, liberal, general and professional education provided by baccalaureate education in nursing. Baccalaureate nursing education develops the intellectual skills of critical thinking, analytic inquiry and problem solving which are essential to independent action, collaboration and decision making. Baccalaureate graduates are prepared to function as nursing care clinicians, health care managers, change agents, health advocates, teachers, counselors and leaders. Baccalaureate graduates must be decision-makers, critical thinkers and risk-takers who are proactive in a changing health care practice arena. Baccalaureate graduates must be responsible and accountable for their current and future practice.

Teaching facilitates the learning of essential knowledge, skills and roles. Teaching is a cooperative, collaborative venture with the learner for the purpose of promoting competence. Nursing education is a transformative process for students and teachers and is a process of reciprocal accountability and responsibility. Both student and teacher share responsibility for the teaching and learning milieu. Through teaching-learning roles created with students, the teacher serves as a guide, role model, facilitator and coach. The student is aided in interpreting nursing science as well as biological, sociological, psychological and physical sciences. The education process in nursing provides exposure to a variety of conceptual frameworks in the discipline and develops an appreciation of the professional literature. Grounded in educational theories, the teacher fosters critical thinking in order to produce graduates who seek problem resolutions to legal; ethical; and predictable and unpredictable health care situations.

Baccalaureate nursing education fosters the professional socialization of students capable of responding proactively to change within society and promoting professional nursing practice. Professional socialization requires exposure to professional associations; and practice in leadership, affiliation, caring and advocacy skills.

The faculty is committed to the education of baccalaureate-prepared nurses within the region who will contribute to the general health of the region's diverse populations. Baccalaureate nursing graduates of Eastern Kentucky University are prepared to function as generalists in a dynamic health care system. Graduates are prepared to pursue lifelong learning; function in a

variety of health care settings and delivery models; as well as specialize at the graduate level.

GRADUATE NURSING EDUCATION

Preparation for advanced nursing practice is obtained through master's education in nursing and builds on the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. Master's education in nursing further develops the intellectual skills of critical thinking, analytic inquiry, and problem solving which were initiated in baccalaureate nursing education.

Building upon the foundations laid by baccalaureate education, the faculty recognizes the need for additional knowledge to prepare graduates for advanced nursing practice. The evaluation of theory and research in nursing and related fields is imperative for graduates to incorporate into their knowledge base as they assume advanced practice roles. A higher level of synthesis, analysis, and application of advanced nursing practice knowledge is incorporated into the roles of clinician, change agent, health advocate, teacher, counselor, and leader which were introduced at the baccalaureate level. The integration of the additional knowledge, theory, and skills of advanced nursing practice is obtained through specialized master's nursing education, in which the client focus is either on the community or family members throughout the life-span. The graduate develops professional concepts and behaviors in order to function in an advanced practice role.

Masters prepared practitioners must collaborate with other health disciplines in providing innovative health care delivery. They do so as full partners, sharing the responsibility for delineating society's health goals and developing health care policy. In addition, they function as advocates for the health care consumer who has a right to health care, regardless of social class or ethnic background.

The faculty recognizes the University's rural geographical setting which creates unique health care concerns. The faculty is committed to the education of advanced practice nurses who will contribute to the general health of the region's rural population. The educational process at the Master's level is collegial in nature and promotes independent, self-directed learning and self-evaluation. Students are required to communicate the results of their discovery, analysis, and synthesis of advanced nursing knowledge both orally and in writing to prepare them for their increased responsibility in making contributions to the knowledge base of the discipline of nursing. Graduate education, which is promoted through intensive study not only in the discipline of nursing but also through courses in supporting disciplines, stimulates the learner to a lifetime of personal and professional development. As baccalaureate nursing education serves as a foundation for graduate study in nursing at the master's level, so master's nursing education serves as a foundation for doctoral study in nursing.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATE NURSING

The threefold mission of the department is congruent with the mission of the college and university:

- to serve the community of interest by providing high quality, accessible learning opportunities which encourage students to act independently, to think critically, to communicate effectively, and to practice professional or advanced practice nursing with integrity, enlightenment and creativity.;
- to participate in service which enhances the educational mission of the college and the

university, and;

- to participate in research and other scholarly efforts supporting the educational mission of the college and university.

(Revised Fall 2003; approved by Faculty Organization 9/26/2003)

PROGRAM GOALS

ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE OUTCOMES

Graduates of the Master of Science in Nursing program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the synthesis of expert knowledge for advanced nursing practice in rural communities.
2. Evaluate theory and research in nursing and related disciplines for their contribution to advanced nursing practice and professional role development.
3. Function as a leader in the analysis and advancement of health care.
4. Utilize research methodology and advanced nursing practice knowledge to identify client needs, propose interventions at the advanced practice level, and evaluate effectiveness of solutions and alternatives.
5. Work within complex organizational and political systems to influence rural health care delivery.
6. Communicate, collaborate, and consult with clients and colleagues in nursing and other disciplines to meet rural health care needs.
7. Interpret the purpose and role of advanced nursing practice to professional colleagues and consumers.
8. Integrate ethical and legal principles into advanced nursing practice.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR MSN PROGRAM

The *Essentials of Master's Education for Advanced Nursing Practice*, published in 1996 by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, has been adopted as the professional standard to guide the graduate curriculum. This document specifies a graduate nursing core, an advanced practice nursing core, and specialty curriculum content as the three components of master's education in nursing. EKU's MSN program has reviewed the curriculum carefully for consistency with these standards to better ensure a quality master's program. The essential curriculum elements are as follows:

Graduate Core Curriculum Content

I. Research

- II. Policy, Organization, and Financing of Health Care
 - A. Health Care Policy
 - B. Organization of the Health Care Delivery System
 - C. Health Care Financing
- III. Ethics
- IV. Professional Role Development
- V. Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice
- VI. Human Diversity and Social Issues
- VII. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

Advanced Practice Nursing Core Curriculum

- I. Advanced Health/Physical Assessment
- II. Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology
- III. Advanced Pharmacology

Specialty Curriculum Content

Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner Option: The specialty curriculum content for the FNP option uses as its standard *The Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs 2002* from the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education. The *Domains and Competencies of Nurse Practitioner Practice*, which was adapted for NONPF's (Nurses= Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty) Curriculum Guidelines and Program Standards for Nurse Practitioner Education (1995), serve as an appendix to the *Essentials of Master's Education* document.

Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Option: In addition to the *American Psychiatric Nurses Association* practice guidelines, the PMHNP option uses as its standard *The Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs 2002* from the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education. The *Domains and Competencies of Nurse Practitioner Practice*, which was adapted for NONPF's (Nurses= Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty) Curriculum Guidelines and Program Standards for Nurse Practitioner Education (1995), serve as an appendix to the *Essentials of Master's Education* document.

Advanced Practice Rural Public Health Nursing option: The specialty curriculum content for the community option uses as its standard the October 2003 document, *Essentials of Master's Tenth Nursing Education for Advanced Community/Public Health Nursing Practice*, published by the Association of Community Health Nurse Educators.

ADMISSION TO MSN PROGRAM

Graduate School Application Process

A student seeking admission to the graduate nursing program at Eastern Kentucky University must apply for admission to the Graduate School indicating the desired option. The student is responsible for submitting completed materials to the Graduate School, including the Graduate School Application Form, transcripts of all previous college work (except course work taken at Eastern Kentucky University), \$35.00 application fee, and scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT). Applications for admission to the Graduate School and information on the GRE are available from the Graduate School office, and applications are also available online. The Miller Analogies Test is

administered through the ECU Academic Testing Office (phone: 859-622-1281).

Please note that a narrative relating your personal and professional goals for graduate study is a required part of the application process for **both** the Graduate School and the department application process. This narrative should be considered a very important part of your application. Faculty use this narrative to evaluate your written communication skills as well as to evaluate the relationship of your career goals to those of the program.

Department Application Process

In addition to the Graduate School application, the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing also has a separate admission packet which may be obtained by contacting the department at (859) 622-1838. A department application form, narrative statement of personal and professional career goals and three professional references are required and must be submitted directly to the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing.

References

Suggestions for references include supervisor/employers; professional contacts such as nurse practitioners, educators, administrators or public health nurse who are familiar with your professional work experience and whose role is related to your choice of option; and faculty members from your most recent academic degree. A variety of references is suggested to provide a more complete picture of your potential for graduate study. References from family members and friends are not considered professional in nature. It is your responsibility to distribute the reference forms and ask that they be sent directly to the Baccalaureate & Graduate Nursing Program by the evaluator. Please inform individuals submitting references that your application file cannot be completed until these forms are received by the ECU MSN program.

Deadlines for Application Submission

Application deadlines for the Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner option, the Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner option, the Advanced Practice Rural Public Health Nursing option (both Administration and Nursing Education areas of Concentration) are February 15 for summer admission (full-time) and March 15 for fall admission (part-time). Admission may be granted at other times during the year if spaces are available in an option.

Selection of Applicants for Admission

Attendance in the Graduate School is a privilege, not a right; therefore, an applicant is guaranteed neither admission to nor completion of the program. As a limited number of applicants are accepted for admission, selection will be based on a careful consideration of all admission information and the degree to which each candidate meets the requirements. Also, since the program is intended to be offered in the outreach areas as well as the Richmond campus, consideration will be given to the students' locations, preferred sites, and desired options in the selection process. Minority and rural students are especially encouraged to apply. **Complete applications, which include GRE or MAT results and all other requested information, are given priority in the selection process. In order to be competitive, all materials and documentation must be submitted by the deadline.**

Admission Requirements

Minimum requirements for admission to the MSN program include 1) a baccalaureate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited program, 2) a free and unrestricted R.N. license in Kentucky (or a recognized compact state) with no Kentucky Board of Nursing imposed restrictions on practice, voluntary or otherwise, 3) an undergraduate GPA of at least 2.75 (4.0 scale) cumulative or in last 60 hours, and 4) a three hour graduate or undergraduate course in statistics with a grade of AC@ or higher. Admission is competitive and limited to available space. In addition to the above criteria, consideration is also given to the applicants' scores on the subtests of the Graduate Record Examination general test or the Miller Analogies Test, the student's statement of Personal and Professional Objectives submitted with the Graduate School application, the three required professional references and the rural nature of the site identified for matriculation or proposed for future practice. Application deadlines for the Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner option, the Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, the Advanced Rural Public Health Nursing option with an area of concentration in either Administration or Nursing Education option are February 15 for summer admission (full-time) and March 15 for fall admission (part-time). Admission may be granted at other times during the year if spaces are available in an option.

Class Offering Locations

Classes are offered as much as possible on the ITV (Interactive Television), which provides interactive video and audio between the outreach sites, or online. In the event that courses are not offered over the ITV or online, selected courses may be offered in a regular classroom at one, two, or more of the sites. In determining the site locations, consideration will be given to such factors as student location, potential enrollment, and faculty availability. To the degree that is possible, the program will be offered in the outreach areas as well as on campus; however, students are guaranteed neither class nor clinical offerings at any particular site or location.

AFTER ADMISSION

Changing Options

After admission, should a student desire to change to a different option, the student should be aware that admission to one option does **NOT** guarantee admission to the other option. The student will need to submit an Application to Change Options form. Forms are available from the department (859 622-1838 or 622-1827). All materials must be received by the earlier February 15 deadline in order for the student to be considered for the upcoming clinical sequence. Applications to change options will be reviewed on a competitive basis along with the new applications.

Delaying Enrollment

Spaces for each class are limited. Since admission to the MSN Program is limited and competitive, any student who is admitted to an option is given one of a pre-determined number of spaces. If a student is admitted and decides not to enroll for the semester in which admission is granted, the

student should notify the department as soon as possible so that another student can be permitted to take that space. Failure to notify the department could jeopardize the student's future admission into the program. A student who does not enroll in the semester for which admission is granted or who withdraws prior to completing the first semester of the program must apply for admission again and submit all new department application materials. Those students will be considered on a competitive basis with the new applicants. (See MSN Progression, Readmission, and Reinstatement policy for more information).

Bookstore Services

In addition to the ECU main campus bookstore, textbooks can also be purchased at the extended campus centers in Corbin, Danville, or Manchester. However, textbooks are only available at the centers on scheduled days at the beginning of the semester. Please contact the ECU Bookstore (859-622-2696) for the bookstore schedule for a particular center. Also, telephone orders can be placed with the ECU campus bookstore (859-622-1266); a credit card will be needed for a telephone transaction, or the books can be sent C.O.D.

Library and Information Technology Services

Library services are available to extended campus students through ECU Library Extended Services, telephone number 859-622-1472. Journal articles, books, and computer searches can be requested. Computers are available for student use on campus and at the extended campus centers. In addition, some reserve articles and books may be available at the centers. The main campus library is available to any of our students for use and offers a full range of services. On-line computer searches are available from ECU library using EBSCO. Course resources (Eg. Course documents, E-reserve, discussion groups, grade book....) are often available on line via Blackboard.

CONTACTING THE GRADUATE SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENT FOR INFORMATION

If questions or concerns arise, the department Enrollment Specialist can answer questions or refer the student to the appropriate person. The telephone number of the department is 859-622-1838 or 622-1827. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm. Students' advisors can be contacted at their individual office telephone numbers, through e-mail (instructors first name.last name.eku.edu), or by leaving a message with the secretary.

If a student needs to contact the Graduate School, the Graduate School staff are available during regular office hours. The telephone number for the Graduate School is 859-622-1742.

ADVISING AND REGISTRATION

Advising Process

Admitted students will be assigned to a graduate advisor. Students register online through the ECU website (www.ecu.edu). If registration is blocked for any reason, permission of the graduate school and/or the department for registration must be obtained and the registration unblocked before students can proceed with registration. The Graduate School is in the process of changing how it documents a student's program of study. At present, a planned program is completed. This will shortly be replaced by a computerized CARES report. Students should always consult with their advisors before registering for classes; however, it is crucial that students contact their advisors prior to the first registration to discuss his/her personal and program objectives, time frame for completion, any special circumstances, etc. **In addition, it is very important that students consult with their advisors if they are deviating from the suggested curriculum progression plan under which they were admitted (full-time or part-time) or if they are experiencing any academic difficulties.** If any student is admitted on a provisional status, the provisions must be satisfied and the student cleared for admission before registration for a second term will be permitted.

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STUDY

The student can select either full-time or part-time study. The student must evaluate outside employment carefully when making a decision to pursue full-time or part-time study. Nine hours in the fall or spring semester and six hours in the summer are considered full-time study. Students applying for the Nurse Practitioner options should carefully consider the extensive clinical practice clock hour requirement for these options when making decisions for full or part-time study. Other obligations, including outside employment, should also be considered. The student's advisor can be of assistance in selecting a curriculum plan to meet the student's needs and provide the best likelihood of successful graduate study.

Occasionally, a part-time student wishes to take a course in the summer before beginning part-time study in the fall to reduce course load requirements in future summer terms. A student should indicate that desire on the admission application, if known at that time, and consult with the Graduate Coordinator or with the advisor after admission.

CURRICULUM & COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Progression Plans

Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner

Full Time Option		
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 834 Adv. Pathophysiology - 3 hours	NSC 840 Nursing Theory - 3 hours NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment - 3 hours NSC 830 Adv. Pharmacology - 3 hours *HEA 855 Epidemiology & Risk Management <u>-3 hours</u> 12 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 870 FNP I - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - 3 hours **NSC 890 Research in Rural Nursing -3 hours 9 hours
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 872 FNP II - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice <u>- 3 hours</u> 6 hours	NSC 874 FNP III - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - 3 hours NSC 892 Research Project <u>-3 hours</u> 9 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 876 FNP Internship - 6 hours NSC 842 Advanced Nursing Practice Issues <u>- 3 hours</u> 9 hours
Part Time Option		
Fall	Spring	Summer
NSC 840 Nursing Theory - 3 hours HEA 855 Epidemiology & Risk Management <u>-3 hours</u> 6 hours	NSC 842 Advanced Nursing Practice Issues - 3 hours **NSC 890 Research in Rural Nursing - 3 hours 6 hours	NSC 834 Adv. Pathophysiology - 3 hours NSC 892 Research Project <u>-3 hours</u> 6 hours
Fall	Spring	Summer
NSC 832 Adv. Health Assessment - 3 hours NSC 830 Adv. Pharmacology <u>- 3 hours</u> 6 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 870 FNP I - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice <u>- 3 hours</u> 6 hours	NSC 872 FNP II - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice <u>- 3 hours</u> 6 hours
Fall	Spring	
NSC 874 FNP III - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice <u>- 3 hours</u> 6 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 876 FNP Internship - 6 hours	

*HEA 855 can be taken in the preceding summer to reduce course load in the fall, if available. Please check summer schedule of classes for availability.

**Three hours of graduate or undergraduate statistics is an admission requirement and is a prerequisite to NSC 890.

Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Full Time Option		
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 834 Adv. Pathophysiology - 3 hours	NSC 840 Nursing Theory - 3 hours NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment - 3 hours NSC 830 Adv. Pharmacology - 3 hours *HEA 855 Epidemiology & Risk Management - 3 hours <u>12 hours</u> + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 880 Rural PMHNP I - 2 hours NSC 881 Applied Psychopharmacology - 2 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice (section for PMHNP) - 2 hours **NSC 890 Research in Rural Nursing -3 hours 8 hours
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 882 Rural PMHNP II - 2 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice (section for PMHNP) - 2 hours 4 hours	NSC 884 Rural PMHNP III - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice (section for PMHNP) - 3 hours NSC 892 Research Project - 3 hours 9 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 886 Rural PMHNP Internship - 6 hours NSC 842 Advanced Nursing Practice Issues - 3 hours 9 hours
Part Time Option		
Summer	Fall	Spring
	NSC 840 Nursing Theory - 3 hours HEA 855 Epidemiology & Risk Management - 3 hours 6 hours	NSC 842 Advanced Nursing Practice Issues - 3 hours **NSC 890 Research in Rural Nursing - 3 hours 6 hours
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 834 Adv. Pathophysiology - 3 hours NSC 892 Research Project - 3 hours 6 hours	NSC 832 Adv. Health Assessment - 3 hours NSC 830 Adv. Pharmacology - 3 hours 6 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 880 Rural PMHNP I - 2 hours NSC 881 Applied Psychopharmacology - 2 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice (section for PHMNP) - 2 hours 6 hours
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 882 Rural PMHNP II - 2 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice (section for PMHNP) - 2 hours 4 hours	NSC 884 Rural PMHNP III - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice (section for PMHNP) - 3 hours 6 hours +Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 886 Rural PMHNP Internship - 6 hours

*HEA 855 can be taken in the preceding summer to reduce course load in the fall, if available. Please check summer schedule of classes for availability.

**Three hours of graduate or undergraduate statistics is an admission requirement and is a prerequisite to NSC 890.

Advanced Practice Rural Public Health Nursing (Area of Concentration in Nursing Education or Administration)

Full Time Option				
Summer			Fall	Spring
NSC 836 Advanced Health Promotion for APN's - 3 hours			NSC 840 Nursing Theory - 3 hours NSC 850 Rural Health Nursing I - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice -2 hours HEA 855 Epidemiology & Risk Management - 3 hours 11 hours	NSC 852 Rural Health Nursing II - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice -2 hours NSC 844 Nursing Ed I -3 hours NSC 890 Research in Rural Nursing -3 hours 11 hours
NSC 854 Management of Health Care for APNs - 3 hours 6 hours				
+Professional Liability Insurance			+Professional Liability Insurance	
Summer				
NSC 862 - Rural Nursing Internship - 3 hours			*NSC 848 Nursing Ed III or **NSC 860 Rural Nsg. Adm. - 3 hours NSC 892 Research Project - 3 hours NSC 842 Advanced Nursing Practice Issues - 3 hours 9 hours	
*NSC 846 Nursing Ed II or **Approved Elective - 3 hours 6 hours				
Part Time Option				
Fall			Spring	Summer
NSC 840 Nursing Theory - 3 hours HEA 855 Epidemiology & Risk Management - 3 hours 6 hours			NSC 842 Advanced Nursing Practice Issues - 3 hours NSC 890 Research in Rural Nursing - 3 hours 6 hours	NSC 836 Advanced Health Promotion for APN's - 3 hours NSC 854 Management of Health Care for APNs - 3 hours 6 hours +Professional Liability Insurance
Fall			Spring	Summer
NSC 850 Rural Health Nursing I - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - 2 hours 5 hours +Professional Liability Insurance			NSC 852 Rural Health Nursing II - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - 2 hours NSC 844 Nursing Ed I -3 hours 8 hours	NSC 862 Rural Health Internship - 3 hours NSC 846 Nursing Ed II or **Approved Elective - 3 hours 6 hours
Fall				
*NSC 848 Nursing Ed III or **NSC 860 Rural Nsg. Adm. - 3 hours NSC 892 Research Project - 3 hours 6 hours +Professional Liability Insurance				

*Required for Nursing Education Area of Concentration

**Required for Administration Area of Concentration; Elective Selected from Approved NSC, POL, or HEA courses (see advisor-some electives)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NSC Nursing

800 Advanced Practice. (1-6) **A.** Advanced practice clinical experience. Students will retake for the minimum number of credit hours required for their specialty option.

830 Advanced Pharmacology. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Application of pharmacotherapeutic principles to the treatment and management of conditions within the scope of advanced nursing practice and frequently encountered in the rural primary health care setting.

832 Advanced Health Assessment. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Emphasis is on the advanced skills necessary for Advanced Practice nursing in assessing the health status of clients from across the life span. Diagnostic reasoning and systems approach will be emphasized.

834 Advanced Pathophysiology. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Application of advanced principles of pathophysiology to the diagnosis and treatment of conditions within the scope of advanced nursing practice and frequently encountered in the rural primary health care setting.

836 Advanced Health Promotion for APN's. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program. Emphasis on advanced skills of planning health promotion programs for client populations. Program planning principles are incorporated within the nursing process to address health concerns of the community.

838 Topics for Advanced Practice. (1-6) **A.** Selected topics will be offered as appropriate for enhancement of advanced practice nursing role. May be re-taken under different topics for up to six credit hours.

840 Nursing Theory. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Provides a basic understanding of the process of theory construction and an appreciation of the role that theory plays in providing a scientific basis for nursing.

842 Advanced Nursing Practice Issues. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Analysis of professional issues and strategies which can facilitate the development of the nursing profession. Consideration of selected variables influencing the development and resolution of issues.

844 Nursing Education I. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: NSC 840. Analyze and critically evaluate curriculum and education theory utilized in nursing education, with an emphasis on curriculum development and teaching-learning theory.

846 Nursing Education II. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: NSC 844. Analyze and utilize teaching strategies, evaluation methods, and documentation methods for nursing education classroom and clinical settings.

848 Nursing Education III. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: NSC 846. Synthesis of education theory, curriculum theory, teaching strategies, nursing faculty role development activities, and evaluation methods for nursing education in classroom and clinical settings.

850 Rural Health Nursing I. (3) A. Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program. Corequisite: NSC 800. Concepts, theories and specific challenges related to the delivery of health services in rural communities. In-depth assessment of complex rural systems.

852 Rural Health Nursing II. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 850, with a minimum grade of B. Corequisite: NSC 800. Innovations to address the health needs of vulnerable population within rural communities. Role preparation for advanced practice nursing, including application of concepts and theories in rural settings.

854 Management of Health Care for APNs. (3) A. Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program. Theoretical basis for the advanced practice nurse's role in management of health care in rural settings. Strategies for the improvement of health care in rural settings will be analyzed.

860 Rural Nursing Administration. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 854. A synthesis of leadership, management, and public health nursing theory applied to the role of the advanced practice nurse in the administration of rural health systems. Includes problem resolution and analysis of alternative approaches.

862 Rural Nursing Internship. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 850 and NSC 852, each with a minimum grade of a B. Internship allows the student to apply advanced knowledge and skills in implementing the role of an advanced practice rural health nurse. Seminar promotes synthesis of rural health nursing knowledge.

870 FNP I. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, each with a minimum grade of B, and NSC 840 and HEA 855. Corequisite: NSC 800. Course provides theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to confront problems relevant to the health care of individuals across the life span. Emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems.

872 FNP II. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 870, with a minimum grade of B. Corequisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to confront problems relevant to the health care of individuals across the life span. Emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems. Builds on NSC 870.

874 FNP III. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 872, with a minimum grade of B. Corequisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to confront problems relevant to the health care of individuals across the life span. Emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems. Builds on NSC 872.

876 FNP Internship. (6) A. Prerequisites: NSC 870, NSC 872, NSC 874, each with a minimum grade of B, and nine hours of NSC 800. Course allows synthesis of theoretical and diagnostic knowledge in a concentrated rural primary care practicum. Emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems in individuals and families across the life span.

880 Rural PMHNP I. (2) A. Prerequisites: NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, each with a minimum grade of B and NSC 840 and HEA 855. Corequisite: NSC 800. Prerequisite/Corequisite: NSC 881, with a minimum grade of B. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to diagnose and treat psychiatric disorders of adults. Competencies in working with individuals are developed.

881 Applied Psychopharmacology. (2) A. Prerequisite: NSC 830, NSC 832, and NSC 834, each with a minimum grade of B. Applies theoretical and diagnostic knowledge related to prescribing psychopharmacological treatment of psychiatric disorders in adults.

882 Rural PMHNP II. (2) A. Prerequisite: NSC 880 and 881, each with a minimum grade of B. Corequisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge used to treat psychiatric disorders of adults. Competencies in working with families are developed

884 Rural PMHNP III. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 882. with a minimum grade of B. Corequisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to diagnose and treat psychiatric disorders of adults. Group skills, community resources and the context of professional practice are examined.

886 Rural PMHNP Internship. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 884, with a minimum grade of B, and six-seven hours of NSC 800. Synthesis of theoretical and diagnostic knowledge to promote mental health, maintain mental health, and prevent mental illness. Systematically examines opportunities for improving PMHNP practice.

890 Research in Rural Nursing. (3) A. Prerequisites: NSC 840. Analysis and critical evaluation of nursing and related research with emphasis on designs and methods appropriate for rural health nursing phenomena.

892 Research Project. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 890. Completion of a research project in an area of interest related to Rural Health Nursing with culminates in a written report.

895 Independent Study. (1-6) A. May be retaken under different subtopics to a cumulative maximum of six hours. Student must have the independent study proposal form approved by faculty supervisor and department chair prior to enrollment.

HEA B Health Education

816 Public Health Organization and Administration. (3) A. Formerly HEA 716. In depth exploration of the myriad of forces impacting public health organization and administration at local, state, and national level; the relationship between legislative action, effectiveness of public health efforts, and future of public health.

855 Epidemiology & Risk Management. (3) A. Formerly HEA 755. A study of the distribution and determinants of disease and injury. Research methodologies for human research, assessment and management of risk disease surveillance techniques will be emphasized.

POLB Political Science

875 Public Sector Organizations and Management. (3) A. Study of organizational theory and management as applied to government agencies and other not-for-profit organizations. Topics covered include theoretical modeling, research on organizational behavior, and managerial strategy and technique.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

CORE REQUIRED OF ALL STUDENTS

NSC 840 - Nursing Theory	3 hours
NSC 842 - Advanced Nursing Practice Issues	3 hours
*NSC 890 - Research In Rural Nursing	3 hours
NSC 892 - Research Project	3 hours
HEA 855 - Epidemiology and Risk Management	<u>3 hours</u>
	15 hours

PLUS

ADVANCED PRACTICE RURAL PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING:

Area of Concentration in **Administration** or **Nursing Education**

NSC 844 - Nursing Education I	3 hours
*NSC 846 - Nursing Education II or	3 hours
**Approved Elective	
NSC 854 - Management of Health Care for APNs	<u>3 hours</u>
	9 hours

Practicum Courses

NSC 836 - Advanced Health Promotion for APN's	3 hours
NSC 850 - Rural Health Care Nursing I	3 hours
NSC 852 - Rural Health Care Nursing II	3 hours
*NSC 848 - Nursing Education III or	3 hours
**NSC 860 - Rural Nursing Administration	
NSC 862 - Rural Health Internship	<u>3 hours</u>
	15 hours

In addition, must complete a minimum of 4 hours of NSC 800 (APRPHN section)
to meet clinical clock hour requirement

Total Hours	39 hours
	Plus 4 hours of NSC 800

*Required for Nursing Education Area of Concentration

**Required for Administration Area of Concentration (select elective from approved NSC, HEA, POL or other courses B see advisor).

NOTE: Three hours of undergraduate or graduate statistics is an admission requirement and is a prerequisite to NSC 890.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

CORE REQUIRED OF ALL STUDENTS

NSC 840 - Nursing Theory	3 hours
NSC 842 - Advanced Nursing Practice Issues	3 hours
*NSC 890 - Research In Rural Nursing	3 hours
NSC 892 - Research Project	3 hours
HEA 855 - Epidemiology and Risk Management	<u>3 hours</u>

15 hours

PLUS

RURAL HEALTH FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER OPTION

NSC 830 - Advanced Pharmacology	3 hours
NSC 832 - Advanced Health Assessment	3 hours
NSC 834 - Advanced Pathophysiology	<u>3 hours</u>

9 hours

Practicum Courses

NSC 870 - Rural Health FNP I	3 hours
NSC 872 - Rural Health FNP II	3 hours
NSC 874 - Rural Health FNP III	3 hours
NSC 876 - Rural Health FNP Internship	<u>6 hours</u>

In addition, must complete a minimum of 9 hours of NSC 800(section for FNP) to meet clinical clock hour requirement **15 hours**

Total Hours

**39 hours
plus 9 hours of NSC 800**

OR

RURAL PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER

NSC 830 - Advanced Pharmacology	3 hours
NSC 832 - Advanced Health Assessment	3 hours
NSC 834 - Advanced Pathophysiology	<u>3 hours</u>

9 hours

Practicum Courses

NSC 880 Rural PMHNP I	2 hours
NSC 881 Applied Psychopharmacology	2 hours
NSC 882 Rural PMHNP II	2 hours
NSC 884 Rural PMHNP III	3 hours
NSC 886 Rural PMHNP Internship	<u>6 hours</u>

In addition, must complete a minimum of 7 hours of NSC 800 (section for PMHNP) to meet clinical clock hour requirement **15 hours**

Total Hours

**39 hours
plus 7 hours of NSC 800**

NOTE: *Three hours of graduate or undergraduate statistics is an admission requirement and is a prerequisite to NSC 890

CLINICAL PRACTICUM COURSES

The clinical practicum courses for the Advanced Practice Rural Public Health Nursing are NSC 836, NSC 850, NSC 852, and the Internship course NSC 862. In addition, NSC 848 is a practicum course for the area of concentration in nursing education and NSC 860 is a practicum course for the area of concentration in administration. Both areas of concentration take NSC 836, which has a practice component. NSC 850 and NSC 852 have a co-requisite of NSC 800. Four hours of NSC 800 are required.

The clinical practicum courses for the Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner option are NSC 870, NSC 872, and NSC 874 and have a co-requisite of three hours of NSC 800, which provides clinical clock hours. The clinical practicum FNP Internship course, NSC 876, provides the remainder of the clinical clock hours in an intensive clinical internship experience.

The clinical practicum courses for the Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner option are NSC 880, NSC 881, NSC 882, and NSC 884. NSC 880 and NSC 882 have a corequisite of two hours of NSC 800 and NSC 884 has a corequisite of three hours of NSC 800, which provides clinical clock hours. The clinical practicum PMHNP Internship course, NSC 886, provides the remainder of the clinical clock hours in an intensive clinical internship experience.

Both FNP & PMHNP students also take NSC 832, which has a lab/practice component. Practitioner clinical experiences will be arranged throughout the region according to agency and preceptor availability and faculty coverage. For the practitioner options, students should be aware that extensive clinical practice hours are required for completion of the program and preparation for the certification examination. Students should carefully consider the number of clinical practice clock hours as well as the credit hours when requesting options. Students should also consider these issues when making decisions regarding full or part time study and employment status. Students should note that the required documentation (please refer to that section for details) must be presented each semester of enrollment before students can participate in clinical practice experiences.

Health Assessment Competency

All Nurse Practitioner students are required to demonstrate mastery of comprehensive advanced physical assessment **in the semester immediately prior to enrolling** in the nurse practitioner course and clinical sequence. Please refer to the *MSN Program Progression, Readmission, and Reinstatement Policy* for complete information.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR CLINICALS

All students are required to submit evidence of, and keep current, the following documentation when enrolling in the following courses (Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner students: NSC 800, NSC 832, NSC 876; Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students: NSC 800, NSC 832, NSC 886; Advanced Practice Rural Public Health Nursing students: NSC 800, NSC 836, NSC 860, NSC 848, NSC 862).

- *1. Current free and unrestricted Kentucky Registered Nurse license (or a recognized compact state) with no Kentucky Board of Nursing imposed restrictions on practice, voluntary or otherwise
2. Current authorized immunization certificate (Measles, Mumps, Rubella; Hepatitis B.)
- *3. Current negative PPD, or, if the PPD is positive, negative chest x-ray or physician statement of evidence of freedom from disease
4. Current CPR Certification
- *5. Professional Liability Insurance purchased through Eastern Kentucky University

*Evidence of currency must be presented each semester of enrollment in the above listed courses and the clinical practice courses.

Professional Liability Insurance

Professional Liability Insurance for all options must be purchased through Eastern Kentucky University. The time period for coverage is August 15 - August 14; no pro-rating for partial year coverage is possible. The liability insurance purchased through the University is paid for with the tuition and fees; a copy of the receipt must be shown to faculty before students can participate in clinical experiences. The student must register for the liability insurance, using the appropriate CRN number, only one time for the August 15 - August 14 period; the student will then be covered for the entire period. The insurance covers only clinical experiences which are part of scheduled classes, and the insurance will no longer be in effect if the student withdraws from school or graduates.

**NOTE: PLEASE DIRECT ALL DOCUMENTATION TO
ATTENTION: ENROLLMENT SPECIALIST FOR GRADUATE PROGRAM**

PROGRESSION AND COMPLETION

Time Limit on Completion

Graduate school has policies regarding the total length of time a student may take from the first to the last class. See the *Graduate Catalogue* for specific details. The department may place other restrictions on the time limit for program completion to promote currency and competency of graduate nursing students who are sitting for national certification examinations. Please refer to the *MSN Program Progression, Readmission, and Reinstatement Policy* for more complete information.

MEETING THE GRADUATE SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

Advisors in the department will work closely with students to facilitate meeting of requirements by both the department and the Graduate School. However, it is the student's responsibility to be knowledgeable of policies and deadlines and to ensure that they are in compliance.

Students should note carefully the required dates for submitting and filing materials, or their progression and graduation from the program may be delayed. The required dates and materials are published in the *Graduate Catalog*. A check list is provided near the end of this booklet to assist students, but students should become familiar with the requirements and discuss them with their advisors.

PROBATION

ADMISSION ON PROBATION & PLACEMENT ON PROBATION AFTER ADMISSION

A student who is granted admission and does not meet the department and/or graduate school requirements for clear admission will be admitted on probation. A student who is admitted on probation can be moved to clear admission status and removed from probation after at least nine hours are successfully completed with no more than one grade lower than a AC@ and maintenance of a 3.0 GPA.

If at any point in the program a student's GPA falls below 3.0, the student will be placed on probation and may be allowed one semester to remove the GPA deficiency. Continued enrollment beyond the probationary semester is permitted only with the recommendation of the advisor and the department chair/program coordinator to the Graduate School. Also, please refer to the *MSN Program Progression, Readmission, and Reinstatement Policy* for more complete information on requirements for progression and probationary status.

A student who is on probation cannot take comprehensive examinations or apply for graduation. Any student who is experiencing academic difficulties should see the advisor and course faculty for assistance and seek ways to remedy the academic difficulties.

GRADING

The grading scale is given in each NSC course syllabus. Please refer to course syllabi and the *Graduate Catalog* for information on grading.

ATTENDANCE

Students of nursing are expected to demonstrate integrity, dependability, and accountability in all of their actions. It is within this professional framework that the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing enunciates its Attendance Policy.

Regular class attendance is expected of all students. Any student with more than 20% absences from class shall be assigned an AF@ grade. The student who presents the instructor with an adequate and documented reason for an absence normally will be given a chance to make up the work missed, if this is feasible. Adequate reasons involve circumstances beyond the student's control, such as personal illness, critical illness or death in the immediate family, or participation in an approved University activity. The responsibility for initiating the request to make up class work missed is vested in the student.

Regular attendance for scheduled clinical practicum experiences is required of all students. If it is necessary to be absent for adequate reasons (see definition above), the clinical instructor must be notified no later than one

hour before the clinical experience is scheduled. Failure to do so could result in failure of the clinical component of the course. Students missing more than two clinical experiences will be subject to failure at the discretion of the individual clinical instructor. Tardiness to the clinical area is also unacceptable. A pattern of tardiness could result in failure in the clinical component.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY

A withdrawal is granted only through midpoint of a course. See the Colonel Compass for the exact date. Students who withdraw prior to the designated time will receive a AW.@ **Students who leave the University without officially withdrawing are subject to receive a grade of AF.**@ A graduate student who must withdraw after the above stated time period and is the victim of EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES may petition for administrative withdrawal from the University. See the Graduate Catalog for specific deadlines and directions for this procedure. Students who withdraw from the program are not guaranteed a place in the program at a later time. Please refer to the *MSN Progression, Readmission, and Reinstatement Policy* for more information.

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF BACCALAUREATE & GRADUATE NURSING

MSN PROGRAM PROGRESSION, READMISSION, AND REINSTATEMENT POLICY

No student may repeat a course to improve standing without permission. An enrollment is considered a repeat if the previous course enrollment resulted in a passing or failing grade. (Please see the *EKU Graduate Catalog* for specific information on the Graduate School policy). The Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing has an additional policy stating that graduate students who have been deemed unsafe in practice, graduate students who have achieved less than the required performance in courses which are designated as specialty or practicum/clinical practice courses, or graduate students who have been unsatisfactory in demonstrating mastery of advanced health assessment in the semester immediately prior to enrolling in the nurse practitioner clinical portion of the curriculum (i.e., first practicum course and advanced practice clinical experience which is NSC 870 and NSC 800 for RHFNP or NSC 880 and NSC 800 for RMHNP) must apply in writing to the MSN Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee by filing the *MSN Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Application*. The policy of the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing is that, with permission, the graduate student may only repeat a course one time and may not repeat a total of more than two NSC courses. **Readmission or reinstatement is not guaranteed to any student.** The decision is based on a recommendation from the *MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee* and the committee's recommendation will be based on factors including the student's academic and clinical performance in the program, the time period until the student will be able to return to the program, and the spaces available in the clinical sequence of the program at the time the student would re-enter the program.

MSN Course Progression

To progress, MSN students must achieve a grade of AB@ or higher in the following specialty and practicum courses: NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, NSC 850, NSC 852, NSC 870, NSC 872, NSC 874, NSC 880, NSC 881, NSC 882, and NSC 884. Students in NSC 850, 852, 870, NSC 872, NSC 874, NSC 880, NSC 882, and NSC 884 should note that if they are given permission to repeat a practicum course to improve their standing, they also must enroll in the required co-requisite hours of NSC 800. Students enrolled in NSC 800 as a co-requisite to a practicum course must receive a satisfactory grade in order to progress. Students must receive a satisfactory grade in all practicum or internship courses (NSC 800, 848, 860, 862, NSC 876, or NSC 886). Students who fail to achieve the required grade in a course must apply in writing to the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee by filing the *MSN Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Application* for permission to correct the deficiency.

MSN Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement

A. Unsatisfactory Course Grade in NSC 800, NSC 848, NSC 862, NSC 876, or NSC 886.

Students who receive an unsatisfactory grade for NSC 800, NSC 848, or the internships (NSC 862, NSC 876, or NSC 886) must apply in writing for readmission to those courses by filing the *MSN Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Application*. It is the student's responsibility to file a readmission application at the end of the semester in which an unsatisfactory grade is received. The application should be filed as early as possible so the committee will have sufficient time to schedule a meeting and notify the student of the decision in advance of the start of the term in which the student is seeking readmission. The decision regarding placement and progression of students who receive unsatisfactory grades in NSC 800, NSC 848, NSC 862, NSC 876, or NSC 886 is based on the recommendation of the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee.

B. Unsatisfactory Course Grades in Specialty and Practicum Courses NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, NSC 850, NSC 852, NSC 870, NSC 872, NSC 874, NSC 880, NSC 881, NSC 882, or NSC 884

A student who receives a grade lower than a $\geq B$ in one of the above courses must apply in writing to the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee for readmission and permission to repeat the course filing the *MSN Progression/Readmission/ Reinstatement Application* at least thirty (30) days before the start of the term in which the course will be offered. The decision regarding placement and progression of students who receive unsatisfactory grades in NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, NSC 850, NSC 852, NSC 860, NSC 870, NSC 872, NSC 874, NSC 880, NSC 882, or NSC 884 is based on the recommendation of the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee.

C. Other Course Repeats

A student who wishes to repeat a course other than NSC 800, NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, NSC 848, NSC 850, NSC 852, NSC 860, NSC 862, NSC 870, NSC 872, NSC 874, NSC 876, NSC 880, NSC 881, NSC 882, or NSC 884 to improve standing may do so with the permission of the advisor and the Graduate School, as long as the repeat will not cause them to exceed policies limiting the number of repeats and as long as they are in good standing and eligible to continue studies at EKU.

D. Advanced Health Assessment Mastery

All Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner and Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students, regardless of academic status, are required to demonstrate mastery of advanced health assessment **in the semester immediately prior to enrolling in the clinical portion of the curriculum (i.e., first practicum course and advanced practice clinical experience** which is NSC 870 and NSC 800 for RHFNP or NSC 880 and NSC 800 for RPMHNP). **Any student** who fails to demonstrate mastery in the required manner in the semester immediately prior to enrolling in the clinical portion of the curriculum must submit an Application for Readmission to a MSN option of study.

This policy applies to **all nurse practitioner students**, whether or not they are enrolled in the NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment course in the semester immediately prior to their progression into the clinical portion of the curriculum. Students who are not enrolled in the NSC 832 course in the semester immediately prior to enrolling in the clinical portion of the curriculum must demonstrate mastery in the same manner as the currently enrolled NSC 832 students before they can progress. **All nurse practitioner students** should refer to the **most current** NSC 832 syllabus for specific information, expectations, and evaluation criteria related to demonstration of mastery. Students who have not followed the suggested curriculum progression plan sequence for any reason, including transfer of courses, taking courses out of sequence, or interruption of studies, must take special note of this requirement and should also note it is **the student's responsibility** to make arrangements to meet this requirement in the semester immediately prior to progression into the clinical portion of the curriculum.

E. Reinstatement after Removal for Unsafe Practice

Unsafe practice is defined as any circumstance or set of circumstances determined by a faculty member or preceptor which could potentially cause harm to the client served. Students deemed unsafe and removed from the clinical area must be granted reinstatement before they can return to the clinical area. Students seeking reinstatement into the clinical area must apply in writing to the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee by filing the *MSN Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Application*. Students applying for reinstatement must apply for reinstatement within ten days of the unsafe evaluation. The MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee will respond to the application within ten (10) working days of the application's receipt. Students seeking reinstatement after being removed from the clinical area for unsafe practice must appear before the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee and will be notified of the date and time for the meeting. The decision regarding reinstatement, placement, and progression of students considered for reinstatement after receiving an unsafe practice evaluation is based on the recommendation of the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee.

F. Withdrawal from the MSN Program

Students who have completed at least one semester and who must interrupt their studies can request permission to be absent from the program for up to one year. Students who are in good standing, are making satisfactory progress at the time of withdrawal, have demonstrated the potential to be successful in the program with an interruption of studies, and plan to return no more than one year from the date of withdrawal, may be granted permission by the Chairperson, Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing or the Graduate Program Coordinator to interrupt their sequence of studies and return at a specified date. Students who fit this category should, after conferring with their advisor, contact the department office and file a *Request to Interrupt Graduate Studies* form. Students who have been granted permission to interrupt their studies and return in a specified semester/year should confirm with the department and notify the graduate school of their intent to return during the semester **before** their return to the program. Students who have withdrawn but have not been granted permission to interrupt their studies and return at a specified date must apply for readmission by filing a *MSN Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Application* for consideration by the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee the semester **before** they desire readmission. Students who withdraw from the program are not guaranteed a place in the program. The decision related to their return is based on a recommendation from the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee. The decision will be based on factors such as the circumstances surrounding the withdrawal from the program, the student's standing at the time of withdrawal, the time period from the withdrawal until return to the program is requested, and the number of students enrolled in the clinical sequence in which the student would be placed.

A student who is admitted and who does not enroll in the semester for which admission was granted, or who withdraws prior to completing the first semester in the program, is not eligible for an interruption of studies. The student must again apply for admission into the program, submit all new department application materials, and be considered on a competitive basis with the new applications.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

In addition to the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing requirements for progression, the University also has requirements. Students pursuing graduate degrees are expected to maintain a 3.0 grade point average at all times. Please refer to the ECU *Graduate Catalog* for specific information on the policy.

MSN Admission, Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee

A. Purpose

The purpose of the MSN Admission, Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee is to promote quality of the program, to ensure safety of clients, and to assist the student with entry into and progression within the MSN program. The committee will consider applications for admission, applicants for readmission from students who have received an unsatisfactory grade in NSC 800, NSC 848, NSC 860, NSC 862, or NSC 876, applications for readmission for students who have failed to demonstrate mastery of advanced health assessment in the required manner in the semester immediately prior to enrolling in the clinical portion of the curriculum, applications for reinstatement from students who have received an unsafe evaluation in a clinical experience, and applications for course repeat approval for students who have received less than a **AB@** in NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, NSC 850, NSC 852, NSC 870, NSC 872, NSC 874, NSC 880, NSC 881, NSC 882, or NSC 884. In addition, the committee will consider applications for readmission from students who have withdrawn from the MSN program and not been granted permission to interrupt their studies and return at a specified date.

B. Committee Composition

The committee will be appointed by the Department Chair and will be composed of members of the department's Graduate Committee representing all program options.

C. Meeting of Committee

The committee will meet to consider applications for admission following the deadlines for receipt of applications and will meet at other times, as indicated. When an application for readmission or progression is received within the dates specified in the policy, the committee will meet before the start of classes for the next term. When an application for reinstatement after removal for unsafe practice is received, the committee will meet within ten working days of receipt of the application for reinstatement.

D. When Students will be Notified

Students applying for readmission or reinstatement will be notified within ten (10) days following the meeting. Notification will be sent to the address given on the application form.

E. Appeal of Decision

If a student elects to appeal the decision regarding progression, readmission, or reinstatement, the appeal must be made **in writing** in the following sequence:

1. Chair, MSN Admission, Progression, Readmission, & Reinstatement Committee
2. Chair, Department of Baccalaureate & Graduate Nursing
3. Dean, College of Health Sciences
4. Graduate School

Approved by Graduate Committee of the Department of Baccalaureate & Graduate Nursing, March 3, 2000; revision approved February 6, 2004.

Approved by the College of Health Sciences Admission/Readmission Committee, April 6, 2000; revision approved March 18, 2004.

Approved by the Graduate Council April 12, 2000; revision approved by Graduate Council April 14, 2004.

Approved by the Council on Academic Affairs May 20, 2004. (Editorial changes for updated curriculum information completed March 2006).

Minor curriculum changes approved by Council of Academic Affairs March, 2006.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

The department assigns a research advisor during the semester in which a student is enrolled in NSC 890. If the student transfers credit for NSC 890, a committee will be assigned at the same time as the cohort assignments are completed. Other members of the committee will be assigned when the student is enrolled in the first clinical practicum course (NSC 870, 880, or 850). The committee consists of three department faculty with graduate faculty status.

APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION

The Graduate School will send directions regarding applying for graduation. Applications are available online. If the student applies for graduation and then does not complete requirements by the anticipated date, the date can be changed by contacting the graduate school. Application for graduation must be filed in the office of the Graduate School no later than the beginning of the semester before graduation. A student planning to graduate in May should apply at the beginning of the preceding fall semester; a student planning to graduate in August or December should apply at the beginning of the preceding spring semester. Fees are to be paid at the Business Office. Students can also mail a check to:

Eastern Kentucky University
Office of Billings and Collections
210 Student Service Building, CPO 60
521 Lancaster Ave.
Richmond, KY 40475-3102

Information must be included with the check stating that the check is for the graduate student graduation fee and specifying to whom and where the receipt is to be mailed (the student's name and mailing address). A copy of the receipt can then be mailed to the Graduate School along with the completed application. To be considered candidates for graduation, students must have an overall and a program GPA of 3.0 or higher at the beginning of the semester in which they are to graduate.

Caps, gowns, hoods, diplomas, and diploma covers are included in the graduate student graduation fee. The caps, gowns, and hoods will be available for pick up in the bookstore and may be kept by the student after graduation.

PLEASE NOTE: Applications for graduation must be on file before a student can be scheduled for comprehensive examinations.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Graduate nursing students must select a project for NSC 892 that synthesizes evaluation of existing literature on a topic into a logically structured analysis and solution of a rural health problem. The goal of this class is to provide graduate students with the opportunity to use a reflective/critical process of thinking, integrate multiple ways of knowing, and demonstrate scholarly inquiry grounded in nursing practice. This course is the second course in the research course series of the MSN program. The first course, NSC 890, presents the theoretical foundation for research and use of research in practice. NSC 892 provides for the implementation of an approved research project and establishes the bridge to integrate research into practice. The project must include a critical analysis of literature, with the use of information systems to incorporate both conceptual and data-based literature. The critical analysis of literature must culminate in application and include implications for nursing practice, education, research, and suggestions for further research. The project may build upon a topic which was initiated in NSC 890, but must show separate and substantial work for the NSC 892 course.

Ideas for projects evolve from the practice of nursing and are clearly grounded in nursing knowledge. NSC 892 is a 3 hour credit scholarly endeavor that is reflective of the process of identifying, researching, developing and providing a scholarly solution to a rural health nursing problem. Each student works closely with a graduate faculty member, identified as faculty project advisors, in the development and completion of the project. The name of each student's faculty project advisor is given to graduate students near the completion of the NSC 890 - Research in Rural Health course. Students then contact his/her project advisor and develop a plan for completion of the project. The project plan outcome will be decided upon by the faculty and the student.

At the end of the project a completed manuscript is graded by the faculty project advisor to arrive at a grade for NSC 892. If difficulties arise and due dates cannot be met for any reason, course faculty should be contacted in advance and approval for an extension obtained. The student should be aware that approved extensions may result in a grade of **AIP@** for the course. In that case, the student would have one year to complete the course requirements. If the course is not completed satisfactorily at the end of one year, a grade of **ANo Credit@** will be awarded, and the student must re-enroll for NSC 892.

Students choose from two different options to complete the requirements for NSC 892: a clinical project option or a research study option.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

All candidates for graduation must perform satisfactorily on an oral examination on the contents of their program of studies. Comprehensive examinations are scheduled after the application for a degree has been filed,

and evidence exists the student should complete degree requirements. The comprehensive exams for the Advanced Practice Rural Public Health Nursing students are usually given near the end of the second semester of enrollment in clinical practicum courses (NSC 852). For Nurse Practitioner students, the comprehensive examinations are usually given near the end of the semester in which they are enrolled in their third clinical practicum course (NSC 874, or NSC 884). The student's committee will administer the oral comprehensive examination. The committee chair must file the Schedule of Comprehensive Examination with the Graduate School, with copies to the student and committee members, at least two weeks in advance of the scheduled date of the examination. The committee chair must certify the results of the completion of the comprehensive examination to the Graduate School no later than ten days in advance of commencement.

If a student fails a comprehensive examination, a review period of not less than 60 days and not more than one year is required before a retake can be attempted. Committee changes are not usually approved between the time an examination is failed and the retake. Comprehensive examinations may not be retaken more than once. *Please refer to the Graduate Catalog for the complete policy on Comprehensive Examinations.*

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
 COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
 DEPARTMENT OF BACCALAUREATE & GRADUATE NURSING
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION RATING FOR CANDIDATE
 Committee Summary Rating

Name of Candidate: _____ Date: _____

Please rate the extent to which the candidate showed evidence of the ability to:

	Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
1. Analyze data and synthesize knowledge to arrive at logical conclusions related to situations encountered in advanced nursing practice.	5	4	3	2	1
2. Articulate sound rationale for ideas and conclusions.	5	4	3	2	1
3. Propose alternative and collaborative approaches to health care when serving rural communities.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Clearly, logically, concisely, and accurately articulate advanced nursing practice knowledge.	5	4	3	2	1
5. Evaluate current issues and roles in advanced nursing practice.	5	4	3	2	1
6. Incorporate theories, knowledge, and research into advanced nursing practice.	5	4	3	2	1

STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES OBSERVED

COMMENTS:

Candidate's Rating (Average Overall Score on the Six Items):

____ Excellent (4.6-5) ____ Above Average (3.6-4.5) ____ Average (2.6-3.5) ____ Below Average (2.0-2.5) ____ unsatisfactory/failed (<2.0)

If candidate failed, state committee recommendations:

MSN COMPREHENSIVE EXAM QUESTIONS AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO
 ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE OUTCOMES, PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS, AND RELATED
 PROFESSIONAL NURSING CONCEPTS CARRIED TO THE ADVANCED PRACTICE LEVEL

Comprehensive Exam Area	Professional Standard	Advanced Nursing Practice Outcomes
1. Analyze data and synthesize knowledge to arrive at logical conclusions related to situations encountered in advanced nursing practice.	Research Role Clinical Option: FNP, PMHNP, or PH/ADM or ED	1. Demonstrate the synthesis of expert knowledge for advanced nursing practice in rural communities. 4. Utilize research methodology to identify client needs and evaluate effectiveness of nursing practice solutions.
2. Articulate sound rationale for ideas and conclusions.	Role Research	1. Demonstrate the synthesis of expert knowledge for advanced nursing practice in rural communities. 2. Evaluate theory and research in nursing and related disciplines for their contribution to advanced nursing practice and professional role development. 6. Communicate, collaborate, and consult with clients and colleagues in nursing and other disciplines to meet rural health care needs.
3. Propose alternative and collaborative approaches to health care when serving rural communities.	Human Diversity and Social Issues Health Care Financing Health Care Delivery System	1. Demonstrate the synthesis of expert knowledge for advanced nursing practice in rural communities. 5. Work within complex organizational and political systems to influence rural health care delivery. 6. Communicate, collaborate, and consult with clients and colleagues in nursing and other disciplines to meet rural health care needs.

Comprehensive Exam Area	Professional Standard	Advanced Nursing Practice Outcomes
4. Clearly, logically, concisely, and accurately articulate advanced nursing practice knowledge.	Professional Role Development Health Care Delivery Clinical Option: FNP, PMHNP, or PH/ADM or ED	1. Demonstrate the synthesis of expert knowledge for advanced nursing practice in rural communities. 3. Function as a leader in the analysis and advancement of health care. 6. Communicate, collaborate, and consult with clients and colleagues in nursing and other disciplines to meet rural health care needs.
5. Evaluate current issues and roles in advanced nursing practice.	Professional Role Development Ethics Health Care Delivery Health Care Financing Human Diversity and Social Issues	3. Function as a leader in the analysis and advancement of health care. 7. Interpret the purpose and role of advanced nursing practice to professional colleagues and consumers. 8. Integrates ethical and legal principles into advanced nursing practice.
6. Incorporate theories, knowledge, and research into advanced nursing practice.	Theoretical Foundations Research Human Diversity and Social Issues Clinical Option: FNP, PMHNP, or PH/ADM or ED	1. Demonstrate the synthesis of expert knowledge for advanced nursing practice in rural communities. 2. Evaluate theory and research in nursing and related disciplines for their contribution to advanced nursing practice and professional role development. 4. Utilize research methodology and advanced nursing practice knowledge to identify client needs, propose interventions at the advanced practice level, and evaluate effectiveness of solutions and alternatives.

DETERMINANTS OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAM RATINGS

5. Excellent:

Student's answer is very comprehensive. Elaborates to a greater extent with examples and illustrations.

Faculty do not have to prompt the student.

Readily cites references, theory, research or examples, as appropriate.

Knowledge of question's topic or focus is clearly evident, and includes analysis and synthesis at a high level.

4. Above Average:

Student's answer is comprehensive. Elaborates somewhat, but not extensively. With a small amount of prompting, much more elaboration is obtained.

Able to cite some references, theory, research or examples, as appropriate.

Knowledge of question's topic or focus is apparent, but includes a more limited analysis and synthesis.

3. Average:

Student's answer is correct and includes critical elements, but elaboration is limited. For more elaboration, faculty must prompt.

Limited citing of appropriate references, theory, research, or examples.

Knowledge of topic is present, but knowledge is not well integrated.

2. Below Average:

Student's answer includes minimal critical elements, but student does not elaborate. Requires a lot of prompting by the faculty to obtain a more comprehensive answer.

Occasional use of references, theory, research, or examples may be elicited with prompting, but may be somewhat vague or not well applied.

1. Unsatisfactory:

Student either answer's question inaccurately or does not include critical elements.

Has difficulty with articulating answer and is unable to relate appropriate references, theory, research, or examples.

Lacks knowledge of topic or knowledge base is below minimal level.

An unsatisfactory answer results in failure of the exam.

CERTIFICATION EXAMS

Graduates who successfully complete the requirements for the Master of Science in Nursing degree or Post MSN Certificate may apply to sit for the national certification examination for their specialty area of preparation. A graduate who is successful on an approved certification examination and who meets the Kentucky Board of Nursing's requirements may also apply for registration as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner. Specific requirements for the certification examinations are listed in the information and application booklets provided by the agencies and on the agencies websites. Please visit the Kentucky Board of Nursing's web site or call the Kentucky Board of Nursing for specific information on licensure and registration.

CHECKLIST OF IMPORTANT DATES AND REQUIREMENTS

1. Application for Admission materials:
February 15 for summer admission (full-time study in the Nurse Practitioner options and the Advanced Rural Public Health Nursing option, both Administration and Education)
March 15 for fall admission (part-time study in the Nurse Practitioner options and part-time study in the Advanced Practice Rural Public Health Nursing option, both Administration and Education)
2. Application to Change Option form and the new Department application materials required:
February 15
3. Required Documentation for clinical:
Enrollment in NSC 832, NSC 836, NSC 800 and all clinical practicum courses
4. Research Advisor Assignment:
When the student is in NSC 890.
5. Committee Assignment:
When the student is enrolled in the first clinical practicum course.
6. Application for Graduation:
Before comprehensive exams are scheduled.
(Must have 3.0 program and graduate GPA in the semester of graduation).
Must apply no later than the beginning of the semester before graduation
(August and December graduates - early in preceding spring semester;
May graduates - early in preceding fall semester;
Please see the Graduate School for specific dates.
7. Comprehensive Examination:
Given after application for graduation has been made -- near the end of the second semester of enrollment in clinical practicum courses (NSC 852) for the Advanced Practice Rural Public Health Nursing students; near the end of the semester of enrollment in NSC 874 for the Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner students, near the end of the semester of enrollment in NSC 884 for the Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students.

POST-MSN CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

The College of Health Sciences offers a Post-Master's Certificate in a second nursing specialty or role for nurses who have completed a master of science in nursing degree. Students applying to or enrolled in the Post-MSN Certificate will plan comply with all the policies of the Master's program with the following modifications:

Application Process

Individuals desiring a Post-MSN Certificate complete the same application process, with the following exceptions, as applicants to the MSN program. On the Graduate School application (line #14), the prospective student should check >certification= rather than indicating intention to enroll in a degree program. On line #15, specify desired specialty (family nurse practitioner, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, public health nurse) or role (nurse education). When requesting the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing admission packet, specifically request the Post-MSN certificate packet.

Deadline for Application Submission

The application deadline is February 15. Admissions may be granted at other times during the year if spaces are available in an option.

Admission Requirements

Minimum requirements for admission to the Post-MSN Certificate program include: 1) a master of science in nursing degree from a nationally accredited program, and 2) a free and unrestricted R.N. license in Kentucky (or a recognized compact state) with no Kentucky Board of Nursing imposed restrictions on practice, voluntary or otherwise. Degree-seeking candidates have priority.

Prerequisites

Prior to beginning the nurse practitioner options, students must complete the following courses with a minimum grade of a B: NSC 830 (Advanced Pharmacology), NSC 832 (Advanced Health Assessment), and NSC 834 (Advanced Pathophysiology). Contact the Graduate Program Coordinator about equivalency of courses taken elsewhere or about enrollment in the courses at Eastern Kentucky University prior to admission to the Post-MSN Certificate. Enrollment in these classes at ECU does not ensure acceptance into the Post-MSN Certificate program. Additionally, all nurse practitioner students are required to demonstrate mastery of advanced physical assessment in the semester immediately prior to enrolling in the nurse practitioner course and clinical sequence (NSC 870 or NSC 880).

Comprehensive Exams: Post-MSN Certificate students do not complete comprehensive exams and do not have a Graduate School planned program. CARES reports are in the process of being developed for the Post-MSN Certificate.

Post MSN Certificate Progression Plans for Public Health tracks

Public Health Administration Option		
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 836 Advanced Health Promotion for APN's - 3 hours NSC 854 Management of Health Care for APN's - <u>3 hours</u> 6 hours +Professional Liability Insurance	NSC 850 Rural Health Nursing I - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - 2 hours *HEA 855 Epidemiology & Risk Management - <u>3 hours</u> 8 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 852 Rural Health Nursing II - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - <u>2 hours</u> 5 hours
Summer		
NSC 862 Rural Nursing Internship - 3 hours		
Public Health Education Option		
Spring	Summer	Fall
NSC 844 - Nursing Education I - 3 hours Approved Elective - <u>3 hours</u> 6 hours	NSC 846 - Nursing Education II - 3 hours	NSC 848 - Nursing Education III - 3 hours

*Prerequisites

Post MSN Certificate Progression Plans for NP tracks

Rural Health Family Nurse Practitioner Option		
Summer	Fall	Spring
*NSC 834 Adv. Pathophysiology - 3 hours	*NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment - 3 hours *NSC 830 Adv. Pharmacology - <u>3 hours</u> 6 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 870 FNP I - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice <u>3 hours</u> 6 hours
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 872 FNP II - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - <u>3 hours</u> 6 hours	NSC 874 FNP III - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - <u>3 hours</u> 6 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 876 FNP Internship - 6 hours
Rural Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Option		
Summer	Fall	Spring
*NSC 834 Adv. Pathophysiology - 3 hours	*NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment - 3 hours *NSC 830 Adv. Pharmacology - <u>3 hours</u> 6 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 880 Rural PMHNP I - 2 hours NSC 881 Applied Psychopharmacology - 2 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - <u>2 hours</u> (section for PMHNP) 6 hours
Summer	Fall	Spring
NSC 882 Rural PMHNP II - 2 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - <u>2 hours</u> (section for PMHNP) 4 hours	NSC 884 Rural PMHNP III - 3 hours NSC 800 Advanced Practice - <u>3 hours</u> (section for PMHNP) 6 hours + Professional Liability Insurance for NP students	NSC 886 Rural PMHNP Internship - 6 hours

*Prerequisites

APPENDICES:

APPENDIX 1: Bloodborne Pathogens

Bloodborne Pathogens Student Exposure Control Plan

College of Health Sciences

Department of Baccalaureate & Graduate Nursing

I. Laboratory and Clinical Practices

A. All students who have occupational exposure shall practice Universal Precautions as the accepted standard of protection and infection control.

1. According to the concept of Universal Precautions, all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, and other bloodborne pathogens.
2. All procedures involving blood or other potentially infectious material (PIM) shall be performed in such a manner as to minimize splashing, spraying, spattering, and generation of aerosols of these substances.
3. Specimens of blood and other PIM shall be placed in a container which prevents leakage during collection, handling, processing, or storage.

B. Personal Hygiene

1. Eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics or lip balm, and handling contact lenses are prohibited in areas where there is a reasonable likelihood of occupational exposure.
2. Food and drink shall not be kept in refrigerators, freezers, shelves, cabinets, or on counter tops or bench tops where blood or other PIM are present.
3. Hand washing is mandatory immediately after removing gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE), and after any barehanded contact with blood or other PIM.
4. Hand washing facilities shall be available in any area where a reasonable likelihood of occupational exposure exists.
 - a. When hand washing facilities are not available, antiseptic hand cleaners or tolettes must be provided.

C. Personal Protection Equipment

1. Gloves must be worn when:
 - a. Direct contact with blood or other PIM is anticipated.
 - b. During invasive procedures.
 - c. Examining non-intact skin,
 - d. During examination of the oral cavity, gastrointestinal and genitourinary tracts,
 - e. Working directly with contaminated instruments,
 - f. The student has cuts, lesions, or dermatitis, and
 - g. During phlebotomy.
2. Single-use gloves must be available of the proper size, material, and quantity. Hypoallergenic gloves or glove liners will be provided for those students who may have hypersensitivity to regular gloves.
3. If there is a chance of blood or other PIM to be splashed or spattered into the eyes or mouth, eye and face protection must be used. This shall consist of a:
 - a. Mask in combination with goggles or glasses with solid side shields, or
 - b. Chin-length face shield, or
 - c. Splash shield positioned between the worker and the infectious material.
4. Gloves, laboratory coats, gowns, and other personal protective equipment must be removed prior to leaving the laboratory area.

D. Contaminated Sharps

1. Contaminated sharps (cs) means any contaminated object that can penetrate skin including, but not limited to, needles, scalpels, lancets, broken glass, broken capillary tubes, and exposed ends of dental wires.
2. Contaminated needles and other CS shall not be recapped, sheared, bent, or broken by hand. Any needle recapping or breaking shall be accomplished by the use of a mechanical device or one-handed technique.
3. CS must be discarded in an appropriate container, which is (a) puncture resistant, (b) leak-proof on the sides and bottom, and (c) labeled with the biohazard symbol and/or color-coded red.
 - a. CS containers must be readily and easily accessible and not be allowed to over-fill prior to disposal.
 - b. CS containers must be closed immediately prior to removal or replacement.

4. Broken glassware must not be picked up by hand. It shall be picked up with tongs or forceps, or swept up with a sterilizable brush or squeegee and dustpan, and placed in an appropriate CS container.
5. For disposal, CS must be sterilized by pressurized steam (autoclave) and placed in an appropriate container for disposal with other waste.

II. Incidents of Possible Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens

A. Definitions

1. Exposure incident means a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other PIM that results from the performance of the student's duties.
2. Source persons means any individual, living or dead, whose blood or other PIM may be a source of occupational exposure to a student.
3. Immunoassay means an approved serological test or group of tests which is currently performed in an accredited clinical laboratory for the determination of HBV and HIV infection.

B. If a student is involved in an exposure event, the following procedure should occur at the student's expense:

1. Documentation of the exposure incident, which shall become part of the student's medical record, including the:
 - a. Route of exposure,
 - b. Circumstances surrounding the incident, and
 - c. HBV and HIV status of the source person, if known.
2. Confidential medical evaluation and follow-up of the incident should include:
 - a. Counseling
 - b. Immunoassay to exposed person.
 - c. Follow-up immunoassay at six weeks, twelve weeks, and six months post-exposure.
 - d. Medical evaluation of any acute febrile illness that occurs within twelve weeks post-exposure.
 - e. Use of safe and effective post-exposure measures according to recommendations for standard medical practice.

APPENDIX 2: Informed Consent

MECHANISMS FOR PROTECTION OF RIGHTS

Assurance - Informed Consent

To safeguard the basic human rights of self-determination, consent to participate in research or unusual clinical activities must be obtained from the prospective subject or his legal representative. Free and informed consent is expected to incorporate the following entities: an explanation of the study, the procedures to be followed, and their purposes; a description of physical risk or discomfort, any invasion of privacy, and any threat to dignity; and the methods used to protect anonymity and to insure confidentiality. The subject needs also to receive a description of any benefits to the subject and/or to the development of new knowledge that potentially might be expected. In instances in which control groups are utilized and therapeutic measures, such as drugs are withheld, appropriate alternative procedures that might be advantageous for the subject need to be discussed with him.

In addition to making available explicit information, an offer to discuss or answer additional questions must be made. The investigator also must inform the subject that one is free to discontinue participation in the activity at any time that the subject wishes to do so. If subjects are patients of other practitioners, the investigator had an obligation to discuss the proposed study with that individual prior to its inception and to negotiate support for its successful completion.

Subsequent to having all of the above information, the person's consent must be voluntarily given without overt or covert coercion being used and without deception being practiced upon the subject. Should research design require some degree of concealment of the true purpose of methodology of the study, the design must also provide for subsequent disclosure of the nature of the concealment and the rationale for incorporating secrecy as part of the procedure.

On some occasions, a research design involves procedures or possible outcomes that may impinge upon the rights of someone related to the subject, such as a spouse or parent. In such cases the informed consent of that individual must also be obtained.

The informed consent of parents or legal guardians must be obtained for investigations that involve minors or individuals judged to be legally incompetent to handle their own affairs. In instances in which these subjects have the capacity to comprehend the implications of the proposed activity they should also be asked to give their consent. In this case, consent supplements rather than supplants that of the parent or other legal agent.

As part of any study protocol, documentation of the procedures to be followed in obtaining informed consent is expected. If written consent is not to be obtained, justification of the omission must be provided. Since the investigator carries the major responsibility for insuring that the rights of the

subject are protected, the investigator must throughout the course of the investigation and thereafter scrupulously adhere to the mutual agreement (whether oral or written) contracted with each subject.

APPENDIX 3: Academic Honesty/Academic Integrity

EKU Academic Integrity Policy

(EKU Honor Code and Pledge)

Preamble

Eastern Kentucky University is a community of shared academic values, foremost of which is a strong commitment to intellectual honesty, honorable conduct, and respect for others. In order to meet these values, students at Eastern Kentucky University are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity. These standards are embodied in the Eastern Kentucky University Academic Integrity Policy, which all students shall pledge to uphold by signing the Eastern Kentucky University Honor Code. By honoring and enforcing this Academic Integrity Policy, the University community affirms that it will not tolerate dishonesty.

Academic Dishonesty Defined

Academic integrity is a fundamental value for the Eastern Kentucky University community of students, faculty, and staff. It should be clearly understood that academic dishonesty is not tolerated and incidents of it will have serious consequences. Anyone who knowingly assists in any form of academic dishonesty shall be considered as responsible as the student who accepts such assistance and shall be subject to the same sanctions. Academic dishonesty can occur in different forms, some of which include cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication.

- **Cheating**

Cheating is an act or an attempted act of deception by which a student seeks to misrepresent that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Giving or receiving assistance not authorized by the instructor or University representative; participating in unauthorized collaboration on an academic exercise; using unapproved or misusing electronic devices or aids during an academic exercise.

- **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism occurs when a student represents work taken from another source as his/her own. It is imperative that student gives credit to information, words, ideas, and images that are integrated into his/her own work. Acknowledgement of a source of information in any form should consist of complete, accurate, and specific references and, if verbatim statements are included, quotation marks as well. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Using words, ideas, or images from another source (including the Internet); whether in quotation marks or not, without giving credit to that source in the form of a bibliographic

citation; facts, statistics, or other supporting materials that are not clearly common knowledge without acknowledgment of the source.

- **Fabrication**

Fabrication is a form of deception and occurs when a student misrepresents written or verbal information in an academic exercise. Fabrication includes, but is not limited to:

- Citation of information not taken from the source indicated. This may include the incorrect documentation of secondary source materials; listing sources in a bibliography not directly used in the academic exercise; submission in a paper, thesis, lab report, practicum log, or other academic exercise of falsified, invented, or fictitious data or evidence, or deliberate and knowing concealment or distortion of the true nature, origin, or function of such data or evidence; submitting as your own any academic exercise (verbal, written, electronic, or artistic work) prepared totally or in part by another person.

Pledge

I hereby affirm that I understand, accept, and will uphold the responsibilities and stipulations of the Eastern Kentucky University Honor Code and Academic Integrity Policy.

Procedures for Dealing with Academic Integrity Cases

Step 1 – When a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy is suspected:

If an incident of alleged violation of the AI Policy is suspected, any member of the EKU community can initiate the process of review by reporting the incident, in writing, directly to the responsible faculty/staff. The responsible faculty/staff may elect to conduct his/her own review of the allegations or may elect for the matter to be referred to the Academic Integrity Office.

Option A: The Faculty/Staff Member Conducts a Review of the Allegations:

If the responsible faculty/staff chooses to conduct the review of the allegations autonomously, the faculty/staff should obtain and assess the applicable information in determining whether a violation of the AI policy has occurred. If the faculty/staff member determines that an AI policy violation has occurred, a notification of the violation must be made to the Office of Academic Integrity for recordkeeping. At this point, the faculty/staff also notifies the student in writing of the allegation, the sanction, AND the right to contest the allegation and sanction according the AI Policy procedure. If the student accepts responsibility for the violation and the sanction in writing, the case is closed. There is no appeal from this decision. **Upon determination of responsibility, the AI Coordinator will enter the report data in the database. If the student does not accept responsibility and chooses to contest the allegation and/or sanction, the process proceeds to Step 2.** Note: The faculty/staff involved in Step 1 should request information from the AI Coordinator regarding the student's previous violation of the AI Policy prior to rendering a sanction in this particular case.

Option B: The Faculty/Staff Member Refers the Case to the Academic Integrity Office:

If a faculty/staff chooses to directly refer the case to the AI Office, the AI Coordinator will meet with the student to discuss the alleged violation. If the student chooses not to contest the allegation and sanction, the sanction is imposed and the case is closed. There is no appeal from this decision. Notification of the violation is made by the AI Office for recordkeeping. If the student contests the allegation and/or sanction, the AI Office will schedule a hearing, as soon as practicable, with the specific College Academic Integrity Committee from which the incident occurred. (Then proceed on to Step 3).

Step 2

After the faculty/staff and student have met and the student chooses to contest the charge and/or sanction, the faculty/staff will refer the case to the AI Office, within 5 academic days of the meeting. The AI Coordinator will meet with the student to discuss the charge and/or sanctions and the right to contest these. If the student chooses not to contest the charge and sanction, the case is closed. There is no appeal from this decision. Notification of the violation is made by the AI Office for recordkeeping. If the student contests the allegation and/or sanction, the AI Office will schedule a hearing, as soon as practicable, with the specific College Academic Integrity Committee from which the incident occurred. (Then proceed on to Step 3).

Step 3

At the College Academic Integrity Committee hearing, both the student and the faculty/staff will present their information. The Committee members will review all of the information presented and then deliberate in private. At the discretion of the Chair of the Committee, the proceeding may be extended to an additional meeting. At this level of hearing and continuing throughout the process, the student has the option of having a Peer Advisor present. Absent exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the student as determined by the Chair of the Committee, if the student who has been notified of the hearing fails to appear, the proceeding may take place in his/her absence and the Committee's decision will be binding. If the Committee determines that the student has violated the AI Policy, before the sanctioning stage of the hearing, the AI Coordinator will provide the Committee information regarding whether the student has any previous AI Policy violations recorded and sanctions imposed. The Committee will deliberate again in private in order to determine the appropriate sanction for this violation. The Chair will announce the decision of the Committee to those present at the conclusion of the hearing.

Step 4

A student can appeal the decision of the College Academic Integrity Committee to the University Academic Integrity Committee. This appeal can only be made based upon irregularities in procedure, new evidence not available for the first hearing, or punishment not consistent with the violation. The student will notify, in writing, the AI Office of their request to appeal to the University Academic Integrity Committee within

5 academic days of the College Academic Integrity Committee's decision, and a meeting of the University Academic Integrity Committee will be scheduled as soon as practicable.

Step 5

At the University Academic Integrity Committee appeal review meeting, the Committee members will consider all the written information supplied by the student. The Committee can modify or set aside the applied sanction, refer the case back to the College Academic Integrity Committee, or uphold the decision. The Chair of the Committee will notify the student of its decision, in writing, within 5 academic days of the hearing. The decision of the University Academic Integrity Committee is final, unless the Committee determines suspension or expulsion is the appropriate sanction to be imposed.

Step 6 through step 9

The following steps will **ONLY** be necessary if it is determined that the student may face the sanctions of suspension or expulsion for the alleged AI Policy violation. According to KRS 164.370, Eastern Kentucky University's Student Disciplinary Council is the only body authorized to suspend or expel a student. KRS 164.370 provides that: "Each board of regents may invest the faculty or a committee of the faculty and students with the power to suspend or expel any student for disobedience to its rules, or for any other contumacy, insubordination, or immoral conduct. In every case of suspension or expulsion of a student the person suspended or expelled may appeal to the board of regents. The board of regents shall prescribe the manner and the mode of procedure on appeal. The decision of the board of regents shall be final."

Step 6

If the College Academic Integrity Committee or University Academic Integrity Committee or AI Coordinator determines that the sanction of expulsion or suspension is appropriate for the AI Policy violation and the student wishes to appeal the sanction, the student must notify, in writing, the AI Office, within 5 academic days of the decision of the College or University Academic Integrity Committee's decision, of his/her desire to appeal. As soon as practicable, the AI Office will schedule a hearing before the Student disciplinary Council.

Step 7

At the Student Disciplinary Council hearing, both the student and the faculty/staff will present their information. The Council will review all of the information presented and then deliberate in private. At the discretion of the Chair of the Student Disciplinary Council, the proceeding may be extended to an additional meeting. Absent exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the student as determined by the Chair of the Council, if the student who has been notified of the hearing fails to appear, the proceeding may take place in his/her absence and the Committee's decision will be

binding. If the Council determines that the student has violated the AI Policy, before the sanctioning stage of the meeting, the AI Coordinator will provide the Council information regarding whether the student has any previous AI Policy violations recorded and sanctions imposed. The Council will deliberate again in private in order to determine the appropriate sanction for this violation. The Chair will announce the decision of the Council to those present at the conclusion of the hearing.

Step 8

If the student chooses to contest the allegation and/or sanction, the student can appeal to the Provost. The student will notify, in writing, the AI Office of his/her request and grounds for such request, within 5 class days of the Student Disciplinary Council's decision. An appeal to the Provost can only be based upon irregularities in procedure, new evidence not available for the first hearing, or punishment not consistent with the violation. The Provost will render a decision, in writing, within 10 academic days of receipt of the appeal.

Step 9

If the provost upholds the decision of the Student Disciplinary Council, and if the student chooses to contest the allegation and/or sanction, the student can appeal to the Board of Regents. The student will notify, in writing, the AI Office of his/her request and the grounds for such request, within 5 academic days of the Provost's decision. An appeal to the Board of Regents can only be based upon irregularities in procedure, new evidence not available at the first hearing, or punishment not consistent with the violation. The decision of the Board of Regents is final.

Sanctions

Minimum Sanction:

The standard minimum sanction for an AI Policy violation shall be the assignment of an "F" for the test, assignment, activity in which an incident of academic dishonesty occurred. The student will not be allowed to retake or rewrite the test, assignment, or activity. A student so assigned an "F" will not be permitted to drop or withdraw from the course.

Minimum Sanction for student with one previous Academic Integrity Policy violation:

The standard minimum sanction for an AI Policy violation for a student with one previous AI Policy violation will be an "FX" recorded for the course on the student's transcript. The "FX" grade denotes failure in the course due to academic dishonesty. A student so assigned an "FX" for a course will not be permitted to drop or withdraw from the course.

Sanctions

In addition to the minimum sanctions for an AI Policy violation, other appropriate educational sanctions may be assigned. These sanctions may be given even if this is the first violation of the AI Policy. Such sanctions could include, but are not limited to the

following:

- Removal from the course
- Educational sanctions
- Community service
- Restriction of computer access
- Precluded from graduating with Honors
- Assigned and “F” for the course
- “FX” notation on transcript
- **Suspension***
- **Expulsion***

*** Note: According to KRS 164.370, Eastern Kentucky University’s Student Disciplinary Council is the only body authorized to suspend or expel a student, Step 6 through Step 9.**

“FX” Notation:

The “FX” grade will be changed to an “F” on the student’s transcript upon completion of the educational sanctions so specified by the faculty/staff (Step 1) or other hearing bodies.

A course with a grade of “FX” may not be repeated until the “FX” grade is changed to an “F”. The student can then choose to repeat the course with the grade earned in the later taking replacing that of the “F” grade.

Helpful Definitions

Scheduling of hearings:

Hearings will be scheduled as soon as practicable after the AI Coordinator receives written notification of the charge of an Academic Integrity violation.

Triviality:

A case may be dismissed if it is found to be trivial. A trivial case is one with no possible consequences to a matter of legitimate concern of the academic community or one with no tendency to undermine trust within the community.

Coordinator:

The AI Coordinator is a faculty member who coordinates the ECU Academic Integrity Policy and procedure. The AI Coordinator does not take part in any actual hearings, but is available to answer procedural questions. The Coordinator is responsible for maintaining all records of all incidents involving the ECU Academic Integrity Policy.

College Academic Integrity Committee:

The College Academic Integrity Committee is comprised of 5 members (1 faculty from the department where the incident arose, 2 faculty from the college at large, and 2 students from the college at large but not from the department where the incident arose). If this case involves a graduate student, at least one of the students on the

Committee will be a graduate student. One member, elected by the Committee, will serve as Chair. The Committee is responsible for determining the facts, and, if the student is found to have violated the AI Policy, the Committee must determine the appropriate sanction. To determine that a violation has/has not occurred, 4 of the 5 Committee members must agree. To determine the sanction, 3 or the 5 Committee members must agree.

Student Disciplinary Council:

The student Disciplinary Council is comprised of 7 members, one faculty from each of the Colleges, and two students (one undergraduate and one graduate student) named by the President of the University. One member, elected by the Council, serves as Chair.

University Academic Integrity Committee:

The University Academic Integrity Committee is comprised of 6 members. At the beginning of the academic year, there will be 2 names (1 faculty, 1 student) from each college and one name (faculty/staff) from the Library submitted to the President's office for appointment to the Committee. For each AI hearing, the College from which the incident arose will have both the faculty and student serve as members of this specific Committee. The remaining members of the Committee will be randomly drawn from two separate categories in order for the make-up of the Committee to be 3 faculty and 3 students. One member, elected by the Committee, will serve as Chair. An appeal to this Committee can only be based upon irregularities in procedure, new evidence not available for the first hearing, or punishment not consistent with the violation. The Committee can modify or set aside the applied sanction, refer the case back to the College Academic Integrity Committee, or uphold the decision. The decision of the University Academic Integrity Committee is final, unless the Committee determines suspension or expulsion is the appropriate sanction to be imposed.

Peer Advisor:

An accused student has the right to have another student act as his or her advisor/**advocate** and to assist the student throughout the process, beginning at Step 4 and continuing through Step 9. The student can be any presently enrolled ECU student.

Silent Advisor:

An accused student has the right to have an attorney present at any proceeding at Step 4 continuing through Step 9. The attorney is not permitted to speak in any hearing through this process.