Family Nurse Practitioner

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The Family Nurse Practitioner track is designed to prepare advanced practice nurses for the current and future healthcare systems. The program emphasizes community-based primary healthcare for individuals and families across the lifespan. Additional attention is placed on the specific healthcare needs of underserved and rural communities. Family Nurse Practitioner skills include identification of acute illnesses; nursing and medical management of commonly encountered acute and chronic illnesses in collaboration and consultation with an interdisciplinary team; development of a knowledge base of community needs and resources available for health promotion; health teaching, guidance, and counseling of clients and their families about illness and its prevention; and health promotion, maintenance, and management.

This Program is offered at the DNP and MSN degree level, as well as at the Certificate level (for those with a MSN in a different specialty area).

PROGRAM FORMAT
- 50 credits for MSN; 26-37 credits for Certificate; 79.5 credits for DNP.
- Fulltime study: MSN in 21 months full-time; DNP in 33 months.
- Part-time study: MSN in 33 months; Certificate in 21 months; DNP in 5 years for MSN at 2 courses per term
  - 644 clinical hours for MSN/Certificate; 1148 for DNP

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES
Students who complete the MSN or DNP Degree programs in Family Nurse Practitioner are able to:
- Demonstrate skill in interpreting pertinent biopsychosocial evidence derived from individual and family assessments, including health histories, physical examinations, laboratory and diagnostic sources, and current literature;
- Formulate different diagnoses and treatment plans for selected acute and chronic illnesses based on an analysis of biopsychosocial data and current research findings;
- Develop and initiate management strategies for common health problem;
- Present assessment data, both orally and written, in an organized manner;
- Evaluate community resources that provide services to clients with particular health needs;
- Successfully pass the ANCC certification examination for Family Nurse Practitioner.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS
Students must meet all admissions requirements, including the completion of a course in statistics. Applicants must have a BSN or MSN degree from an accredited institution, and should have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Enrolled students must have a current RN license and be eligible for a Virginia RN license.

International students must demonstrate ability in English and must submit TOEFL or IELTS scores.

Application deadline:
- Fall Semester November 1
Family Nurse Practitioner
Sample Program of Study
(MSN student, full-time option)

Fall Semester
- Epidemiology & World Health (3)
- Research Processes & Biostatistics (4)
- Advanced Pathophysiology (4)
- Role I: APRN Role Acquisition (2)

Spring Semester
- Clinical Decision-Making in Advanced Practice Nursing (2)
- Advanced Pharmacology (4)
- Advanced Health Assessment (3)

Summer Session
- Health Policy: Local to Global (3)
- Primary Care NP Seminar I for FNPs (3)

Fall Semester
- Theoretical Foundations in Nursing (3)
- Primary Care NP Seminar II for FNPs (3)
- Primary Care Preceptorship I (6)

Spring Semester
- Primary Care NP Seminar III for FNPs (3)
- Primary Care Preceptorship II (6)
- Role II: APRN Role Transition (1)

Family Nurse Practitioner
Sample Program of Study
(Certificate student)

Fall Semester
- Advanced Pathophysiology (4)
- Role I: APRN Role Acquisition (2)

Spring Semester
- Clinical Decision-Making in Advanced Practice Nursing (2)
- Advanced Pharmacology (4)
- Advanced Health Assessment (3)

Summer Session
- Primary Care NP Seminar I for FNPs (3)

Fall Semester
- Primary Care NP Seminar II for FNPs (3)
- Primary Care Preceptorship I (6)

Spring Semester
- Primary Care NP Seminar III for FNPs (3)
- Primary Care Preceptorship II (6)
- Role II: APRN Role Transition (1)

Family Nurse Practitioner
(BSN-DNP student, full-time option)

Fall Semester
- Biostatistics in Healthcare (3)
- Advanced Pathophysiology (4)
- Epidemiology & Global Health (3)
- DNP Seminar: Foundations for EBP (2)

Spring Semester
- Evidence Based Practice (3)
- Advanced Pharmacology (4)
- Advanced Health Assessment (3)
- Roles for Advanced Nursing Practice (2)

Summer Session
- DNP Practicum I (4)
- Health Behavior & Health Promotion (3)

Fall Semester
- Quality & Safety in Healthcare Systems (2)
- DNP Practicum II (4)

January Term
- Primary Care NP Seminar I for FNPs (3)

Spring Semester
- Managing Information Technology (2)
- Primary Care NP Seminar II for FNPs (3)
- Primary Care NP Seminar III for FNPs (3)
- Health Policy: Local to Global (3)

Summer Session
- Management of Pediatric Health Disorders (2)
- Primary Care Practicum Women’s Hlth & Peds (0.5)

Fall Semester
- Business & Finance for Adv. Nursing Practice (3)
- Primary Care Practicum I (5)

Spring Semester
- Nursing Ethics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3)
- Evaluation & Dissemination of Scholarly Practice Project (1)
- Primary Care Practicum II (5)

Updated 9/30/14