

# NURSING

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*The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, master's degree program in nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Salve Regina University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.*

Accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

## About the Program

The Graduate Nursing Program is designed for nurses to continue studies within their profession to seek advanced practice and/or an advanced degree in nursing. There are numerous programs to obtain a degree; Master of Science of Nursing with a Family Nurse Practitioner concentration and Post-Master's Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP). There are numerous Post Master's Certifications to expand advanced nursing certifications including Post Master's Family Nurse Practitioner, Certified Nurse Educator and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. All graduates are prepared to sit for national certification examinations.

The DNP curriculum focuses on an Organizational and Systems Leadership perspective embedded in evidence-based practice, quality improvement and systems thinking, and leadership. Graduates may seek leadership roles as advanced practice nurses, managers of quality initiatives, executives in health care organizations, directors of clinical programs and faculty responsible for clinical program delivery and clinical teaching.

### Programs

- Master of Science of Nursing with a Family Nurse Practitioner concentration
- Post- Master's Family Nurse Practitioner concentration
- Post- Master's Certified Nurse Educator
- Post- Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Post- Master's Doctorate in Nursing Practice

## Advising

Academic advising in the Graduate Nursing program is conducted by the Director and Program Coordinators. The Chair of the Nursing department supports the Director, as needed. Students are eligible for full admission into the MSN with FNP concentration program when they successfully complete advanced pathophysiology, advanced physical assessment and advanced pharmacology.

## Nursing Liability Insurance

Nursing Liability Insurance is required prior to initiating clinical practice providing patient care within the nursing program. The university has a supplemental insurance to all nursing students.

## Program Requirements

Students must meet the admission, progression, and graduation requirements of the University Graduate Catalog. No more than 9 transfer credits can be applied to program requirements. All transfer credits need to be approved by the Graduate Nursing Director. The minimum acceptable grade is B- or greater. If a student earns less than a B- within a course, the student will be required to retake the course. A required course may be repeated once. If the student is not successful in earning a B- or greater, the student will be disenrolled from the program.

## Policy for Readmission

Students who leave in good academic standing may resume enrollment in the program within two years after taking their first course by enrolling in courses required to complete the degree requirements. If a student is on leave from the program for 3-5 years, the completed coursework will be reviewed on an individualized basis. Completion will be determined by the Chair of the Department of Nursing or Graduate Program Director based on the courses taken, the current information needed for advanced nursing practice, and student experience. Student remediation may be part of this individualized program. Students who have left the program in good academic standing and wish to re-enroll in the program five years or more after taking their first course in the graduate program will have their transcripts reviewed on an individual basis. Readmission to the program may require retaking courses and/or remediation. In addition to the Department of Nursing policy for readmission, all students must follow the readmission procedures for the Graduate School.

## Prerequisite Courses

Students must have successfully completed a course in statistics from an accredited university.

## Master of Science Nursing with a FNP concentration Student Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Prepare for independent practice as an advanced care provider embodying the tenets of nursing and practice to the highest level of licensure. The advanced practice nurse provides safe, holistic, innovative, and comprehensive care across the lifespan using evidence, scientific knowledge, and science-based theory.
2. Demonstrate leadership skills through the assessment of patient's bio-physical, emotional, behavioral, and social determinants impacting health and engaging in the improvement of healthcare outcomes. Engaging in collaborative communication with patients, caregivers, communities, and other healthcare professionals and leaders.
3. Analyzing, evaluating, and integrating quality improvement, evidence-based research, evidenced-based quality patient care, informatics, and healthcare technologies to enhance interprofessional communication and resources for quality care delivery.
4. Evaluate, interpret, and integrate healthcare policies to deliver care as an advocate for health to provide safe, effective, ethical, equitable, and holistic care.

- Employ health promotion, education, resilience and self-care strategies for patients, healthcare providers and ones' self through the integration of technology, science based resources and community services.

(Source: 2022 Update)

## Post Master's Certificate - Family Nurse Practitioner Student Learning Outcomes

- Prepare for independent practice as an advanced care provider embodying the tenets of nursing and practice to the highest level of licensure. The advanced practice nurse provides safe, holistic, innovative, and comprehensive care across the lifespan using evidence, scientific knowledge, and science-based theory.
- Demonstrate leadership skills through the assessment of patient's bio-physical, emotional, behavioral, and social determinants impacting health and engaging in the improvement of healthcare outcomes. Engaging in collaborative communication with patients, caregivers, communities, and other healthcare professionals and leaders.
- Analyzing, evaluating, and integrating quality improvement, evidence-based research, evidenced-based quality patient care, informatics, and healthcare technologies to enhance interprofessional communication and resources for quality care delivery.
- Evaluate, interpret, and integrate healthcare policies to deliver care as an advocate for health to provide safe, effective, ethical, equitable, and holistic care.
- Employ health promotion, education, resilience and self-care strategies for patients, healthcare providers and ones' self through the integration of technology, science based resources and community services.

(Source: 2023 Update)

## Post Master's Certificate - Certified Nurse Educator Student Learning Outcomes

- Apply strong critical thinking and decision-making skills in the nursing profession
- Influence health-related outcomes through effective communication and teamwork
- Demonstrate ethical and cultural sensitivity that impact health outcomes
- Perform as an effective leader and role model for others in education and clinical settings
- Integrate knowledge of theory, research, and evidence-based practice to enhance nursing education and nursing areas of practice
- Employ a variety of instructional strategies to support the diverse learners
- Evaluate individual professional growth and excellence in practice

(Source: 2023 Update)

## Post-MSN Doctorate of Nursing Practice Student Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Applying critical thinking, and collaborative, interprofessional communication utilizing evidenced based resources to evaluate, improve, address, and transform health care across all populations and organizational systems.
- Using a systematic process through theoretical and evidence-based strategies to provide solutions in healthcare. Evaluate, facilitate, and transform processes and policies to ensure quality, cost-efficient, equitable and innovative solutions including technological advancements to improve global health while upholding cultural, ethical, and diverse aspects of healthcare.
- Engaging in advocacy and policy formation as a change agent and a transformational leader, the student will critically analyze health care policies to promote, collaborate and improve healthcare outcomes while addressing the social determinants of care and the diverse needs of individuals, organizations, and communities in which we serve.
- Engagement in global networking to provide servant leadership within the nursing profession and healthcare communities as a transformational leader embodying the Sisters' of Mercy mission to encourage a world that is harmonious, just and merciful. Remaining entrenched as a life-long learner to uphold the highest level of nursing practice.

(Source: 2022 Update)

## Master's

- Nursing (M.S.) with a FNP concentration (<https://catalog.salve.edu/graduate/academic-programs/nursing/nursing-fnp-concentration-ms/>)

## Certificates

- Post-MSN Certificate - Certified Nurse Educator (<https://catalog.salve.edu/graduate/academic-programs/nursing/certified-nurse-educator/>)
- Post-MSN Certificate - Family Nurse Practitioner (<https://catalog.salve.edu/graduate/academic-programs/nursing/Post-MSN-FNP-Certificate/>)

## Doctorates

- Post-MSN Doctorate of Nursing Practice (<https://catalog.salve.edu/graduate/academic-programs/nursing/post-msn-dnp/>)

### NUR-503: Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology (3 Credits)

System-focused content addresses the normal physiologic and pathologic mechanisms of disease that serve as the foundation for advanced clinical assessment, decision-making, and management. Physiologic changes are compared and contrasted over the life span; and developmental physiology, normal etiology, pathogenesis, and clinical manifestations that are commonly found are addressed.

**NUR-505: Foundations of the Advanced Practice Nurse (3 Credits)**

Seminar focusing on leadership concepts and professional values as they apply to the advanced practice nurse in a variety of settings at all levels of prevention. This course provides an integration of science-based theory and concepts with an emphasis on role transition and synthesis. Professional issues, collaboration, scope of practice, and advocacy are emphasized.

**NUR-511: Global Influences in the Advanced Management of Care (3 Credits)**

Global influences are changing advanced nursing health care practice. The course will explore health care policies, regulations, political and legal influences and ethical aspects to provide quality care. Genetics and genomics are expanding and influencing the management of care. Exploring the impact of these influences of care in relation to the role of the advanced practice nurse today and in the future.

**NUR-512: Advanced Health Assessment (3 Credits)**

Advanced health assessment and diagnostic reasoning focuses on assessment of health status of individuals and families throughout the lifespan addressing cultural and developmental variations. Diagnostic reasoning is emphasized as the decision-making process which differentiates normal from abnormal health states. NUR512 is taught in the Simulation Laboratory Suite in Newport during the Spring semester. There are 40 hours of Simulation practicum included in the course and 120 direct supervised patient care hours.

**NUR-514: Advanced Healthcare Informatics (3 Credits)**

This course focuses on application and innovation related to the collection, development, organization, analysis, and dissemination of information and technology in an interdisciplinary health care environment. Students are introduced to the role of the healthcare informaticist, healthcare information systems and the information system life cycle, the electronic health record (EHR), telemedicine, clinical decision-making tools, and other technology useful for enhancing healthcare delivery and patient safety.

**NUR-520: Research for Evidence-Based Practice (3 Credits)**

This course focuses on the study of scientific research as applied to advanced practice nursing. Emphasis is placed on the role of the advanced practice nurse in research formulation and utilization.

**NUR-525: Nurse Educator I (3 Credits)**

This course focuses on foundational principles for teaching and learning in academic, clinical, and healthcare settings, especially in populations with diverse backgrounds. This course will examine different teaching strategies and learning styles. Students will build upon prior knowledge of health education and promotion while gaining practical educator knowledge necessary to prepare them to serve a variety of populations.

**NUR-528: Advanced Leadership in Healthcare (3 Credits)**

This course explores management and organizational leadership for advanced practice nurses within the health care system. Students will examine health care policy, organizational assessment, effective communication, conflict resolution, diversity in the workplace, and quality improvement initiatives impacting health care and different populations.

**NUR-534: Advanced Care for the Maternal and Family Unit (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-503 and NUR-512 are required.

Advanced Care within Maternal and Family Unit will delve into the complex assessment and management of the pregnant female, fetus and family unit. Family dynamics and theoretical assessments will be explored. The diverse care of the maternal-fetal unit will be examined to provide holistic management of care incorporating pharmacologic management of health care issues.

**NUR-535: Pharmacologic Principles for Advanced Practice Nursing (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-503 is required.

The study of pharmacologic principles and nursing prescriptive authority for the management of common and complex problems is the focus of this class.

**NUR-536: Advanced Care of the Pediatric Patient (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-503 and NUR-512 are required.

Advanced Care within Pediatrics delves into the complex development, stages and assessments in the management of the pediatric patient. Family dynamics and theoretical assessments will be explored while focusing on the impact to the child. The stages of growth and development impacting advanced practice will be explored. Prescribing and dosing of pharmacological substances will be discussed to understand the impact for the holistic management of care on the pediatric patient. In this course students identify advanced skills to assess, diagnose and manage pediatric health conditions, prevention of chronic diseases, and provide health promotion for the pediatric patient and family unit.

**NUR-540: Application of the Advanced Practice Nurse Role I (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-503, NUR-505, NUR-512 and NUR-535 are required.

This clinical course facilitates implementation of the role of the advanced practice nurse. In consultation with faculty, students select an area of clinical practice and implement advanced clinical decision-making in the provision of evidence-based nursing care with an emphasis on health and wellness. 130 Clinical Hours.

*Offering Term(s):* Spring Only

**NUR-545: Nurse Educator II (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-525 and NUR-528 are required.

This course focuses on the role of the academic nurse educator who facilitates adult learning using innovative, evidence-based teaching strategies and ongoing quality improvement. Students will develop, assess, and evaluate academic nursing curriculum through leadership, scholarship, and service. This course will also consider essential prelicensure requirements for nursing education programs and explore the regulatory agency approval process.

**NUR-548: Nurse Educator - Practicum I (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-525 and NUR-528 are required.

This nurse educator practicum will provide the learner an opportunity to expand expertise and knowledge through interaction within a prelicensure academic nursing program. This course will explore the role of the academic nurse educator, teaching and learning theories, student-centered education, tools to facilitate learning, curriculum, test design, and program evaluation. In addition, the student will examine regulatory requirements for prelicensure nursing programs and innovative curricular ideas. The student will also explore how faculty designs and presents essential nursing information through various formats and strategies.

**NUR-550: Advanced Practice Care I (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-503, NUR-512 and NUR-535 are required.

This course concentrates on the role of the advanced practice nurse in the coordination and management of common health conditions for persons across the life span. Focus is on the assessment, diagnosis, clinical management, and education of persons within primary care settings.

**NUR-552: Advanced Practice Care II (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-550 is required.

This course focuses on the role of the advanced practice nurse in the coordination and management of complex health conditions and restoration of health for persons across the lifespan. The emphasis is on the assessment, diagnosis, management, and education of persons within primary care settings.

**NUR-555: Application of the Advanced Practice Nurse Role II (6 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-536, NUR-540, NUR-550 and NUR-552 are required.

This clinical course facilitates implementation of the role of the advanced practice nurse. In consultation with faculty, students select an area of clinical practice and implement advanced clinical decision-making in the provision of evidence-based nursing care with an emphasis on common health conditions in primary care settings. 250 Clinical Hours.

**NUR-560: Nurse Educator III (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-525, NUR-528, NUR-545 and NUR-548 are required.

This course focuses on the role of the nurse educator in patient and family education, staff development, and community (public health) education. Students will explore, assess, and evaluate educational strategies and theories that contribute to effective presentation development.

**NUR-562: Nurse Educator - Practicum II (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-525, NUR-528, NUR-545 and NUR-548 are required.

This nurse educator practicum will focus on the role of the nurse educator in patient and family education, staff development, or community (public health) education. This course will build on what the student has learned throughout the advanced practice nurse educator program. Students will explore, assess, and evaluate educational strategies and theories that contribute to effective presentations for patient and family education, staff development, or community (public health) education.

**NUR-565: Application of the Advanced Practical Nurse Role III (6 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-536, NUR-540, NUR-550, NUR-552, NUR-555 are required.

This course continues the focus on the clinical development of the advanced practice nurse. The emphasis is on the implementation of interdisciplinary care for complex health conditions in primary care settings. 250 Clinical Hours.

**NUR-615: Ethical Issues in Advanced Practice Nursing (3 Credits)**

This course examines ethical issues in advanced practice nursing. The theoretical underpinnings of ethical decision making are discussed. The responsibilities of the advanced practice nurse as a patient advocate are analyzed. 75 direct experiential supervised hours.

**NUR-620: Epidemiology (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-652 and NUR-665 are required.

This course focuses on the application of the principles of epidemiology to the planning, implementing, and evaluating of population-based health care services. The course emphasis is on the use of epidemiological and biostatistical methods of reasoning to draw inferences about strategies at all levels of prevention. 50 direct experiential supervised hours

**NUR-625: Organizational and Systems Leadership in Healthcare (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-652 and NUR-665 are required.

This course explores critical topics in organizational and systems leadership that emphasize collaboration and communication strategies to move interdisciplinary groups toward common goals and objectives. Students will examine professional relationships within health care systems and identify strategies to positively influence health care quality and ensure patient safety. 75 direct experiential supervised hours.

**NUR-633: Business and Legal Aspects of Advanced Practice Nursing (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-615, NUR-652, and NUR-665 are required.

Business and legal aspects relevant to establishing and maintaining an advanced nursing practice are critically analyzed. Aspects such as consulting, contracting, budgeting, profit analysis, billing, and reimbursement practices are discussed. 50 direct experiential supervised hours.

**NUR-645: Advanced Nursing Research Methods (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-615, NUR-620, NUR-652, and NUR-665 are required.

Students explore various research techniques and methods to develop an advanced practice research project and apply the results to encourage knowledge through intensive analysis of existing research and current researched findings. The course includes preparation of appropriate research questions, literature review, qualitative and quantitative approaches to advance practice research, research designs, and threats to internal and external validity. Students identify a population to accurately sample, conduct data collection, and adhere to ethical considerations of research with the goal of enhancing outcomes and practice change. 50 direct experiential supervised hours.

**NUR-652: Foundation of Scholarly Work (3 Credits)**

This course is an introductory course to prepare, develop and disseminate academic writing. Academic writing is different from other forms of writing. Scholarly writing allows for the demonstration of scholarship in a specific domain like nursing. Writing and scholarship impacts advancements in teaching, research, and practice. The course will reinforce composition and writing skills for academic purposes. Students utilize citations and references to assure that their work reflects a larger body of literature on the topic of interest. The course encourages written communication of ideas to inform and persuade a reader on the topic. The student will use the approved format to support their position and learn how to avoid plagiarism.

**NUR-658: Health Policy and Population Health (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-615, NUR-620, NUR-652, and NUR-665 are required.

This course will examine the theoretical foundation and frameworks for examining health policy including health promotion, population health, health equity and the implementation of community-based interventions. Utilization of current U.S. and global data will be examined to improve outcomes. What outcomes? U.S. health policies and the role of APRNs in analyzing and creating health policy will be examined. Additionally, this course provides an evidence-based approach to the analysis of the healthcare policy making process, the effect of policy on healthcare and broader social policy, the influence of political and economic forces on healthcare policy, and the necessity of health service organizations to engage in strategic governmental relations to empower community action. Direct Supervised Hours 75.

**NUR-662: Health Care Management and Care Systems (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-615, NUR-620, NUR-633, NUR-652, and NUR-665 are required.

This course analyzes how health care is organized, delivered and financed in the United States. It provides a comprehensive systems thinking approach tracing the economic, cultural, and social contexts to deliver high-quality care. This course will examine the evidence-based practices of distribution and access to medical and other services, the roles of public and private insurance and healthcare benefits, licensure and accreditation, quality, and reimbursement. Investigation of the role of the advance nurse leader and the leaders' ability to improve outcomes within the areas of access to healthcare, federal healthcare and legislative programs and trends in healthcare delivery is explored and examined. Direct Supervised Hours 50 .

**NUR-665: Biostatistics (3 Credits)**

Biostatistics explores the rigorous transformation of knowledge gathering into measurable data to improve healthcare outcomes. This course will build upon basic statistics and develop new knowledge to explain and decipher data within healthcare. The application and interpretation of statistical and epidemiological techniques appropriate to health research and science will be implemented. This course will prepare students to think quantitatively, assess data critically and interpret qualitative data. The student will examine principles of statistical inference and the application to the analysis and interpretation for answering practice questions.

**NUR-670: Quality Improvement, Initiatives and Safety in Advanced Nursing (3 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-615, NUR-620, NUR-633, NUR-652 and NUR-665 are required.

This course explores the theoretical foundations and application of quality improvement methods, tools and strategies needed to increase organizational effectiveness. Measurement and accountability in health care delivery systems through the examination and analysis of data, structures, processes, and outcomes will be emphasized. Evidence-based science of quality improvement and interprofessional patient safety across various healthcare settings will be explored while focusing on contemporary issues in healthcare professions. This course will prepare students to lead and practice in organizations that advance high reliability principles, patient safety, inter-professional teamwork, and continuous learning to improve outcomes. Direct Supervised Hours 75.

**NUR-672: DNP Practice Experiential Hours I (6 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-652 and NUR-665 are required.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice Experiential Hour I course offers the Post-MSN student requiring 250 experiential hours to work collaboratively with a leader in healthcare. The student will select an area of health care to work with an advanced practitioner to focus on organizational systems and leadership qualities. In consultation with faculty, the student will identify individualized learning outcomes to support the understanding of impacts on patient care outcomes.

**NUR-674: DNP Practice Experiential Hours II (6 Credits)**

**Pre-requisite(s):** NUR-652 and NUR-665 are required.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice Experiential Hour II course offers the Post-MSN student requiring an additional 250 experiential hours, above the Doctor of Nursing Practice Experiential Hours I to work collaboratively with a leader in healthcare. The student will select an area of health care to work with an advanced practitioner to focus on organizational systems and leadership qualities. In consultation with faculty, the student will identify individualized learning outcomes to support the understanding of impacts on patient care outcomes.