

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

Master of Science

Dr. Betty Beimel, Graduate Nursing Program Director

Program Mission Statement

The mission of the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is to prepare ethical, safe, and effective advanced practitioners of professional nursing across the lifespan.

Program Description

The Master of Science in Nursing program prepares students for their role as an advanced practice nurse who functions as the primary care practitioner to individuals across the lifespan in a variety of inpatient and outpatient clinical settings.

The degree offers an emphasis on practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), to enable students to take their career to a higher level. Through this program, you can develop the knowledge and skills to assume advanced practice roles. The didactic courses provide the knowledge, theoretical concepts, and research that inform today’s patient care and evidence-based practice. The clinical courses enable students to gain skills in clinical decision making and differential diagnosis, patient teaching, assessments, and interventions.

Our degree enables graduates with the knowledge and skills to sit for the FNP national certification board examination offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). There is a 1:7 credit-to-contact hour ratio for practicum which includes a combined total of 787.5 hours for the program. This comprises 750 direct care clinical hours across the three clinical courses and virtual simulation that are incorporated into courses. There are two annual starts: fall and spring. There are two program options: accelerated/full- (five terms) and standard/part-time (seven terms). MSN FNP majors must meet all University of Charleston graduation requirements and complete all program and course assignments.

End of Program Learning Outcomes (EPSLO)

At the end of this course of study, the graduate will:

1. Demonstrate safe, high quality, patient-centered and population care in advanced practice nursing through relevant sciences and health promotion. [NONPF Role Core Competencies Domains 1 – 10; 2021 AACN Essentials 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
2. Apply evidence and research to support the Family Nurse Practitioner in practice. [NONPF Role Core Competencies Domains 1 – 10; 2021 AACN Essentials 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
3. Demonstrates the attributes of an advanced practice registered nurse. [NONPF Role Core Competencies Domains 1 – 10; 2021 AACN Essentials 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
4. Assess health outcomes within a systems framework using healthcare technology. [NONPF Role Core Competencies Domains 1 – 10; 2021 AACN Essentials 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]

What You Will Study

The MSN FNP degree program includes 42 credits of academic work.

Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner – Required Courses		
Course	Title	Credits
NURSM 501	Advanced Practice Roles	3
NURSM 502	EBP Research	3
NURSM 503	Advanced Leadership	3
NURSM 504	IT in Advanced Practice	3
NURSM 505	Healthcare Policy	3
NURSM 510	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NURSM 515	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NURSM 520	Advanced Assessment	3
NURSM 525	FNP Capstone	3
NURSP 625	Primary Care I	5
NURSP 635	Primary Care II	5
NURSP 645	Transitions: Advanced Nursing	5
Total Required Credits for MSN FNP degree focus:		42

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission, applicants must:

- Have a BSN from an accredited institution with a minimum final GPA of 2.50 as evidenced by the final, official transcript with the BSN conferral. The institutional transcript documenting the BSN conferral

will be the only transcript required for a complete application packet. (BSN in progress may be considered for a conditional admission status.)

- Have a current, active, unencumbered US registered nurse (RN) license (Authorization to Test may be considered for a conditional admission status)
- Have a personal commitment to the rigor and time of the program
- Submit a written statement of purpose
- Submit the contact information for two (2) professional recommenders
- Submit a resume/curriculum vitae (CV)

Cohort size is limited and admission to the program is competitive. Application deadlines are posted online at www.ucwv.edu/academics/majors-degrees/master-of-science-in-nursing.

Transfer Students

The Capito Department of Nursing accepts transfer students for the master's degree program. In order to gain admission to the graduate nursing program students must:

- Have a GPA of 2.50 or greater in the master's degree program from which the student wishes to transfer.
- Transferred courses must have been taken for credit.
- Students may transfer nursing courses where a 'B' or higher has been obtained except any courses where APEA is used with standardized testing.
- Individual consideration for course acceptance will be evaluated prior to transfer credit being confirmed
- No more than 9 credits will be accepted for transfer.
- Credit for other graduate nursing courses earned more than five (5) years ago cannot be transferred.
- Course syllabi and transcripts are required for review by the program faculty in order to determine the number of possible transfer credits accepted. Course equivalency will be evaluated by the faculty currently teaching the UC version of the course. The designated faculty will make a recommendation to the Program Director regarding the substitution.

Additional Requirements

MSN FNP majors must meet all University of Charleston graduation requirements and complete all program and course assignments.