

Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Course Descriptions & Objectives

NURS 78200 – Psychiatric-Mental Health NP/Clinical Practicum 1 (4.5 credits, 315 clinical hours)

This course provides individualized experiential learning for students in psychiatric mental health care settings, with direct and indirect supervision by faculty and clinical preceptors. Students will learn and experience the entry level of direct care of the biological, social, cultural and spiritual dimensions of individuals suffering from mental and behavioral disorders. Experiential learning in variety of settings provides an opportunity for a student to learn how to conduct a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation, make a differential diagnosis, plan treatment and intervention.

Course Learning Objectives

1. Develop an age-appropriate treatment plan for mental health problems and psychiatric disorders based on bio-psycho-social theories, evidence-based standards of care, and practice guidelines.
2. Manage previously diagnosed and undiagnosed patients including differential diagnosis for mental health problems and psychiatric disorders.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of health promotion, disease prevention, health protection, anticipatory guidance, counseling, disease management, palliative, and end of life care.
4. Describe the role of the master's-prepared nurse, as a member and leader of inter-professional teams, in communicating, collaborating, and consulting with other health professionals to manage and coordinate care.
5. Apply principles of patient-centered care, recognizing cultural diversity and the patient or designee as a full partner in decision-making.
6. Attend to the patient- nurse practitioner relationship as a vehicle for therapeutic change.

NURS 78300 – Psychiatric-Mental Health NP/Clinical Practicum 2 (4.5 credits, 315 clinical hours)

This course provides an advanced level of independent and autonomous experiential learning for students in behavioral health care settings with direct and indirect supervision by faculty and clinical preceptors. Experiential learning provides an opportunity for students to learn how to conduct advanced levels of psychiatric evaluation; to develop differential diagnoses, plans of treatment and appropriate interventions. This course provides opportunities for students to demonstrate the ability to be independent in direct and indirect care of individuals suffering from mental and behavioral disorders throughout life span and apply standards of care to foster health promotion and disease prevention.

Course Learning Objectives

1. Demonstrate independence in developing differential diagnoses for mental health problems and psychiatric disorders.
2. Select health care services for patients, to include health promotion, disease prevention, health protection, anticipatory guidance, counseling, disease management, palliative, and end of life care.
3. Display proficiency in communicating, collaborating, and consulting with other health professionals to manage and coordinate care.
4. Assess patient-centered interventions that recognize cultural diversity and the patient or designee as a full partner in decision-making.