

# Adult Primary Care

The adult primary care program prepares adult nurse practitioners in adult health, gerontologic health, occupational health, and women's health. These are 44-credit programs, except for the occupational health option, and can be completed in two years of full-time study or three to four years of part-time study. Graduates of the program are prepared to sit for the appropriate certification exam offered by the professional credentialing organization.

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## CORE COURSES FOR ALL ADULT PRIMARY CARE CONCENTRATIONS

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### **NUR 580**

#### **Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing I**

This course introduces the student to the essential competencies necessary to provide primary health care to clients of diverse populations. The course addresses the history-taking process with an emphasis on communication strategies. Students engage in study that will assist them in understanding the developmental and cultural needs of clients as they relate to the delivery of primary health care. A holistic approach to the client is stressed with attention to health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems encountered in primary care. Theories and conceptual models from nursing and related disciplines are integrated. The cognitive processes underlying diagnostic and clinical decision-making are introduced. Common health issues encountered in primary care are presented in case studies where students implement the process of clinical decision-making. Prerequisites: SHS 570 and NUR 404; Corequisites: NUR 580A, or NUR 571A (2 credits)

### **NUR 580A**

#### **Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult I**

This course builds upon the principles presented in SHS 570 and is taught concurrently with NUR 580. It includes two components, a clinical practicum and a clinical decision-making seminar. The clinical component consists of laboratory and health assessment workshops where advanced health assessment skills including interviewing, history-taking, and physical examination are refined and practiced. Students work with model patients to learn these skills. Nurse practitioner preceptors guide students in developing expertise in conducting complete health assessments. Students utilize the nursing process in formulating plans for a diverse group of clients with multiple health issues. Conducted in a small group format, the clinical decision-making seminar emphasizes the synthesis of clinical and theoretical information. Using a case study format, information-gathering skills, clinical judgment, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills are analyzed. Corequisite: NUR 580 (1 credit)

### **NUR 581**

#### **Clinical Practicum**

This course provides the student with the clinical practice experience to develop the skills essential to the advanced practice role of nurse practitioner. Assessment and diagnosis of clients with episodic and chronic illnesses and the development of a management plan of care under the supervision of nurse practitioner faculty and preceptors are emphasized. The problem-based learning, case-study format of this course allows students to explore the issues relevant to the assessment, diagnosis, and management of clients with primary health care needs. Students develop goals that guide their clinical decision-making. Evaluation of student progress is made routinely by student self-evaluation and feedback from faculty and nurse practitioner preceptors. Prerequisites: NUR 580 and NUR 580A (3 credits)

### **NUR 582**

#### **Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult II**

This course develops the conceptual base for the practice of primary health care nursing. A holistic approach to the client is stressed, with attention to health promotion, prevention, and management of common health problems encountered in primary care. Interventions for health problems are addressed within the scope of nurse practitioner practice. Interventions for nursing and medical diagnoses are based on current research in advanced practice nursing and medicine. Prerequisite: NUR 581 (3 credits)

### **NUR 582A**

#### **Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult II**

This course builds upon the principles of primary health care nursing of the adult and includes two components, a clinical practicum and a clinical decision-making seminar. Students develop clinical goals and objectives that guide their clinical experience and direct self-evaluation of clinical achievements. Evaluation of students' progress is made routinely by nurse practitioner preceptors and nursing faculty. Corequisite: NUR 582 (3 credits)

## **Adult Health Concentration**

This concentration prepares advanced nurse practitioners to deliver primary health care to adult clients in the community. A primary focus of this concentration is to prepare the nurse practitioner to collaborate with members of the interdisciplinary health care team as they make decisions concerning the diagnosis and management of health care problems.

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### **CORE COURSES IN ADULT HEALTH**

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#### **NUR 580**

**Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing I**

#### **NUR 580A**

**Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult I**

#### **NUR 581**

**Clinical Practicum**

#### **NUR 582**

**Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing II**

#### **NUR 582A**

**Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult II**

#### **NUR 584\***

**Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing III**

The focus is now broadened to include primary health care of larger target populations. Assessment of the individual includes cultural traditions, family issues, and social and economic policies affecting the client. The primary care needs of target populations such as frail elders, the homeless, and the developmentally and/or physically disabled are the focus of in-depth discussions. Issues of advanced practice including prescription-writing, legislative initiatives, ethical dilemmas of primary care and collaborative practice are explored. Prerequisites: NUR 582 and NUR 582A (3 credits)

#### **NUR 584A\***

**Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult III**

This course builds upon the principles of primary health care nursing of the adult presented in NUR 580, NUR 581, NUR 582, and NUR 584 and includes the two components of a clinical practicum and a clinical decision-making seminar. It is expected that students will become increasingly independent in the delivery of health care services, consulting with preceptors and other team members as appropriate. Faculty meet regularly with students and preceptors for the purpose of evaluating student performance and successful attainment of course objectives. Written feedback of student clinical summaries and conferences facilitate this final component of the transition to the masters-prepared nurse practitioner role. Corequisite: NUR 584 (4 credits)

\*Women's Health students take NUR 584 and NUR 584A concurrently with NUR 566 and NUR 566A. They register for NUR 566 and NUR 566A.

## Gerontologic Health Concentration

This concentration focuses on the primary health care needs of the elderly and the frail elderly. Clinics, extended care facilities, home health agencies, neighborhood health centers, nursing homes, and private practices provide valuable clinical experiences to meet students' learning needs.

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### CORE COURSES IN GERONTOLOGIC HEALTH

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#### **NUR 580**

**Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing I**

#### **NUR 580A**

**Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult I**

#### **NUR 581**

**Clinical Practicum**

#### **NUR 582**

**Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing II**

#### **NUR 582A**

**Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult II**

#### **NUR 583**

**Clinical Geriatric Nursing: Promoting Function for the Older Adult in Primary Care**

Functional health patterns are utilized as a framework for the assessment and management of health problems and issues for the elderly adult. Research-based intervention strategies for specific nursing diagnoses are applied utilizing case study methodology. This course provides students with the necessary theoretical foundation to provide holistic primary health care nursing to the older adult in a variety of health care settings. (3 elective credits)

#### **NUR 588**

**Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing of the Geriatric Client**

This course builds on the previous primary health care courses and provides students with the opportunity to explore issues of the health care delivery system which affect primary health care. Clinical conferences facilitate synthesis of nursing theory and practice so that optimum primary health care delivery to elders is achieved. Prerequisites: NUR 582, NUR 582A, and NUR 583 (3 credits)

#### **NUR 588A**

**Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing with the Geriatric Client**

This course builds upon the principles of primary health care nursing of the geriatric client and includes a clinical practicum and a clinical decision-making seminar. Taught concurrently with NUR 588, the clinical component of this course allows students to deliver primary health care nursing to culturally diverse populations of elders and their families in a variety of settings. Emphasis is on the critical analysis of biopsychosocial, cultural, environmental, political, and economic factors which influence the health status of elders. Conducted in a small-group format, the clinical decision-making seminar emphasizes the synthesis of clinical and theoretical information. Using a case-study format and drawing from the students' clinical practice, information-gathering skills, clinical judgment, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills are analyzed. Self-evaluation and critique of written and verbal presentations of client encounters with increasingly complex clinical situations are conducted. Corequisite: NUR 588 (4 credits)

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**CORE COURSES IN SIMMONS OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CONCENTRATION  
(NOT INCLUSIVE OF HARVARD DUAL DEGREE)**

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**NUR 571****Practice of Occupational Hygiene**

The course presents lectures and discussions of key aspects of industrial hygiene, covering recognition, evaluation, and control of health hazards at work. Consideration is given to chemical, physical, and biological hazards and the criteria for each. Prerequisite: Permission of the Instructor (4 credits)

**NUR 572****Occupational Health Policy and Administration**

This course examines the legal, economic, and political foundations of occupational health activities in the United States. Discussions of the role of government, unions, corporations, and research organizations are conducted. The students acquire an understanding of management functions in corporations. Prerequisite: Permission of the Instructor (2 credits)

**NUR 573****Toxicology**

This interdisciplinary course focuses on specific toxic agents found in the occupational and environmental settings and their effects on specific organ systems. Discussions focus on regulatory guidelines, primary health care interventions, and health promotion and health screening programs. Prerequisite: NUR 422 (2 credits)

**NUR 574****Introduction to Occupational and Environmental Medicine**

This interdisciplinary course explores the specific health care interventions essential to treat occupational illnesses and injuries, prevent disease, and promote health in the workplace. The role of the interdisciplinary occupational health team members is discussed and clarified. Prerequisites: NUR 582 and NUR 582A (2 credits)

**NUR 575****Ergonomics/Human Factors**

This course emphasizes the design of the job to fit the worker. It investigates specific problems resulting from the nature of the job itself and considers the physiological, biomedical, psychological, and anatomical characteristics of the worker in the development of good job design principles. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. (2 credits)

**NUR 580****Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing I****NUR 580A****Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult I****NUR 581****Clinical Practicum****NUR 582****Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing II****NUR 582A****Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult II****NUR 584****Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing III****NUR 584B****Clinical Decision-making and Analysis in Primary Health Care Nursing in the Workplace**

This course builds upon the principles of primary health care nursing in the workplace and includes the two components of a clinical practicum and a clinical decision-making seminar. It is expected that students will become increasingly independent in the delivery of health care services, and will consult with preceptors and members of the interdisciplinary health care team as appropriate. In the clinical component, students are responsible for the delivery of primary health care to workers and for the evaluation of a specific occupational hazard or group. Faculty meet regularly with students and preceptors for the purpose of evaluating student performance and successful attainment of course objectives. Written feedback on student clinical summaries and conferences facilitate this final component of the transition to the masters-prepared nurse practitioner role. Corequisite: NUR 584 (4 credits)

## Women's Health Concentration

The women's health concentration prepares nurse practitioners with special expertise in issues related to women's health across the life span. Clinics, women's health centers, and private practices provide valuable clinical experience to meet the individual learning needs of students. Graduates are prepared to sit for the women's health practitioner certification exam offered by the appropriate credentialing organization. Students take the adult core courses: NUR 580, NUR 580A, NUR 582, NUR 582A, NUR 584, NUR 584A.

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### CORE COURSES IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

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#### **NUR 566**

##### **Theory and Practice of Primary Health Care Nursing of Women**

See NUR 584. In addition, women's health nurse practitioner students must achieve competencies in women's health specialty content such as infertility, acute and chronic vulvovaginal health issues, gender disparities in health care, early options pregnancy counseling and interventions, caring for women cross-culturally, herbal and homeopathic remedies in well woman care, and LGBT health concerns including obstetrical issues via case studies, self-directed learning and workshops. Prerequisites: NUR 582 and NUR 582A (3 credits)

#### **NUR 566A**

##### **Clinical Decision-making and Analysis in Primary Health Care of Women**

This course builds upon the principles of primary health care nursing of the adult including the obstetrical client presented in NUR 580, NUR 567, NUR 567A, NUR 582, NUR 582A, NUR 566 and includes the two components of a clinical practicum in women's health (16 hours week) and a clinical decision making seminar. It is expected that students will become increasingly independent in the delivery of health care services and apply specialized knowledge to the care of women, consulting with preceptors and other team members as appropriate. Faculty meets regularly with students and preceptors for the purpose of evaluating students performance and successful attainment of course objectives. Written feedback of student clinical summaries and conference facilitates this final component of the transition to the masters prepared nurse practitioner role. Corequisite: NUR 566 (4 credits)

#### **NUR 567**

##### **Theory and Practice of Primary Health Care Nursing of the Pregnant Woman**

This course presents the theoretical and clinical knowledge essential to care for women during and after a pregnancy. It focuses on the continued development of advanced clinical knowledge and skills necessary for effective primary health care of the woman and family during the child-bearing cycle, and health promotion and maintenance in the provision of gynecologic health care throughout the woman's life cycle. Content includes the physiology of pregnancy, prenatal care, laboratory testing relevant to pregnancy, assessment of fetal well being, complications of pregnancy, preparation for childbirth, the puerperium, and diagnosis and treatment of common obstetrical complications. Prerequisites: NUR 566 and NUR 566A (3 credits)

#### **NUR 567A**

##### **Clinical Practicum**

This course is taken in conjunction with NUR 567 and builds upon NUR 580. This course provides the student with the clinical practice experience in obstetrics essential to the role of the advanced practice nurse in women's health and family health. Assessment and diagnosis and the development of a management plan of care for the pregnant and post partum client under the supervision of nurse practitioner faculty and preceptors are emphasized. The problem based learning, case-study format of this course allows students to explore the issues relevant to the assessment, diagnosis and management of the obstetrical client. Students develop goals that guide their clinical decision-making. Evaluation of student progress is made routinely by student self-evaluation and feedback from faculty and nurse practitioner preceptors. Requires 16 hours week with Ob/gyn preceptor. Prerequisite: NUR 580 and NUR 580A. (3 credits)

#### **NUR 580**

##### **Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing I**

#### **NUR 580A**

##### **Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult I**

#### **NUR 582**

##### **Theory and Practice: Primary Health Care Nursing II**

#### **NUR 582A**

##### **Clinical Decision-making in Primary Health Care Nursing of the Adult II**