Master of Science in Nursing
Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (World Wide Web)

Concentration Description
The psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner (PMHNP) concentration prepares professional nurses as safe and competent practitioners of psychiatric and mental health services who become eligible to sit for the certification exam given by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) upon graduation. The 43-semester hour concentration includes core courses, concentration courses, and clinical practicums. All content courses are offered online and the clinical experiences are arranged in a geographically convenient area for the student.

Requirements for Admission
Admission to the master of science in nursing program requires the student to meet the minimum admission requirements for graduate study of the university and the following requirements of the College of Nursing:

- A baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited program
- A minimum GPA of 2.7 in undergraduate studies and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in nursing major
- Acceptable score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) within the past five years.
- Current non-restricted license to practice as a registered nurse (RN) in North Carolina or an NCSBN-compact state (Individual advisement may be necessary for licensure regulations for online out-of-state students)
- One year experience as a registered nurse (RN). Admission priority is given to applicants who have at least one year of psychiatric nursing experience and plan to provide direct care upon program completion.
- Three professional references, with at least one reference from a NP.
- A statement of purpose essay describing the applicant’s interest in graduate study, career goals and the MSN degree’s relationship to those goals
- A current resume
- A personal interview with a member of the graduate faculty
- A course in statistics with a grade of “C” or higher

Requirements for Clinical Courses
Information regarding clinical requirements can be found in the ECU College of Nursing Student Handbook at: www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/nursing/customcf/downloads/handbooks/grad_handbook.pdf Upon admission all graduate students are required to complete a criminal background check. Students will receive specific instructions from the Office of Student Services on how to complete this process.

Sample Curriculum Plan – Full-Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-Year Students</th>
<th>Second-Year Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall Semester</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fall Semester</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 6050</td>
<td>Human Physiology and Pathophysiology for Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 6080</td>
<td>Theory for the Practice of Advanced Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 6611</td>
<td>Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Semester Total</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 6081</td>
<td>Research for the Practice of Advanced Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 6082</td>
<td>Influencing Healthcare Quality, Safety, and Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 6083</td>
<td>Healthcare, Finance, and Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<th>Summer</th>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 6610</td>
<td>Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7510</td>
<td>Advanced Nursing Practice with a Focus on Psychopharmacology and Treatment of Couples, Families and Groups in Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Semester Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>Semester Total</strong></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
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## Sample Curriculum Plan – Part-Time

### First-Year Students

**Fall Semester**
- NURS 6083 Healthcare, Finance, and Economics 3
- NURS 6611 Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice 3

**Semester Total** 6

### Spring Semester
- NURS 6081 Research for the Practice of Advanced Nursing 3
- NURS 6082 Influencing Healthcare Quality, Safety, and Policy 3

**Semester Total** 6

### Summer
- NURS 6050 Human Physiology and Pathophysiology for Advanced Nursing 3
- NURS 6610 Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice 3

**Semester Total** 6

### Second-Year Students

**Fall Semester**
- NURS 6080 Nursing Theory 3
- NURS 7501 Neuroscience and Psychopharmacy in Advanced Nursing Practice 2
- NURS 7502 Psych Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role Development 1

**Semester Total** 6

### Spring Semester
- NURS 7500 Diagnosis, Disease Management and Psychotherapeutic Treatment of Children and Adolescents 3
- NURS 7531 Advanced Nursing Practice Practicum and Supervisions in Children and Adolescents 2

**Semester Total** 5

### Requirements for Graduation
- All graduate students are required to maintain a grade average of “B.”
- Graduation application must be submitted at least one semester prior to completing the degree requirements as stated in the graduate catalog.
- Students who do not register for courses for a semester must complete an electronic readmission form (available at www.ecu.edu/gradschool/ and in the Graduate School Office).
- All graduate students complete a comprehensive assessment at the end of their program in NURS 6993.
- MSN student are required to keep graduate program/health requirements and liability insurance requirements up to date throughout their clinical courses.

The master’s program at East Carolina University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036. Phone: 202.887.6791.

### The University

The university is the third largest in the University of North Carolina system (UNC), which consists of the state’s sixteen degree-granting public institutions. ECU is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral degrees and is designated as an academic health center by the Association of American Health Centers. Governed by its own Board of Trustees, which is responsible to the UNC Board of Governors, ECU offers 80 departmental certificates, 93 baccalaureate degree programs, 76 master’s degree programs, two specialist degree programs, six first professional programs, and 15 doctoral programs in our professional colleges, the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Dental Medicine, and the Brody School of Medicine. It confers more than 5,800 degrees annually and it has approximately 160,000 alumni.

**For more information, contact ECUNursingGradPrgms@ecu.edu**

East Carolina University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, creed, sexual orientation, or disability. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, which accommodates the needs of individuals with disabilities.

Updated July 24, 2017