

CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST IN PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH

The College of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island offers a Master of Science degree with a psychiatric-mental health nursing area of emphasis. Its purpose is to educate clinical nurse specialists in psychiatric-mental health for roles in advanced clinical practice, education, consultation, leadership, and research. This curriculum provides the educational preparation required for ANCC certification.

CURRICULUM

The Clinical Nurse Specialist in Psychiatric-Mental Health curriculum consists of courses totaling 41 semester credit hours. Of these, 14 credits are in nursing core courses consisting of concepts and theories in nursing practice, research, leadership and role development. In addition, 15 credits of advanced psychiatric-mental health nursing courses, 12 credits of support courses are required. In some cases, students may elect to combine this curriculum with another specialization (e.g. administration or education) or area of emphasis (e.g. gerontological clinical nurse specialist). The program culminates with a written comprehensive examination and the submission of a substantial scholarly work involving significant independent study which is referred to as the major paper. This requirement is an extension of work completed from prior coursework in the master's program.

REQUIRED NURSING CORE COURSES (14 credits)

NUR 500 Theoretical Study of the Phenomena in Nursing (4 credits)

NUR 505 Nursing Research (3 credits)

NUR 507 Theories of Practice for Nursing (3 credits)

NUR 510 Adv. Leadership in the Health Policy Process (3 crs)

NUR 520 Graduate Study Seminar (1 credit)

REQUIRED COURSES for CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST IN PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH (15 credits)

NUR511 Advanced Mental Health Nursing I (3 credits) Investigation of theories of healthy and psychopathological patterns of individual behavior from a mental health perspective.

NUR512 Practicum in Advanced Mental Health Nursing I (3 credits) Practicum to develop competence in the practice of advanced mental health nursing. Emphasis on application of relevant theories in solving individual's mental health problems.

NUR515 Practicum in Advanced Mental Health Nursing (3 credits) Practicum to further develop increased competence in the practice of mental health nursing intervention. Requires a summer commitment.

NUR516 Advanced Mental Health Nursing II (3 credits) Theoretical analysis of current modes of advanced mental health intervention in order to explain strategies for solution of family, group, and community problems.

NUR 517 Advanced Mental Health Nursing II (3 credits) Field experience to develop increased competence in the

practice of mental health nursing in providing client care, consultation, education and research.

SUPPORT COURSES (12 credits)

NUR503 Expanded Nursing Assessment Skills (3 credits) Expansion of nursing assessment skills, including health history taking and physical, psychological, and social assessment skills.

NUR519 Psychopharmacotherapeutics for Advanced Practice Nursing (3 credits) Integration of psychopharmacotherapeutics and decision making with human pathophysiology.

PSY601 Physiological Psychology (3 credits) An advanced consideration of physiological research on neural, endocrine, and response systems as they relate to attention, motivation, emotion, memory, and psychological disorders. (or NUR 535 Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nurses)

PSY607 Advanced Psychopathology (3 credits) A review of the multicultural, theoretical, clinical and empirical literature related to the development, classification, and diagnosis of psychopathology.

CLINICAL PRACTICE

Clinical practice is available in a variety of settings - hospitals, HMO's, community mental health centers, VNAs.

Clinical supervision is provided by advanced practice nurses and other professional faculty. Students care for clients with increasingly complex needs and expand their roles to include consultation, education, research and leadership as they progress in the program. The practicum experiences are planned with the student, taking into consideration the student's interests, learning needs and career goals. A minimum of 500 clinical practice hours must be completed in the graduate program.

CERTIFICATE OPTION

The post-master's certificate option consists of courses totaling a minimum of 27 credits including NUR503, PSY601 or NUR535, PSY607, NUR511, 512, 515, 516, 517 and NUR519.

TRANSPORTATION

A car is necessary to reach the various clinical practice locations in the cities and rural areas. A local bus service connects the University to most major health service facilities, shopping, and service centers, but the bus routes and schedules may not always be convenient for the graduate student.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Admission to the Graduate School.
- Minimum GPA of 3.0.
- Two letters of recommendation (academic and professional).
- Curriculum vita.
- Completion of MAT or GRE with a satisfactory score.
- Baccalaureate degree in nursing accredited by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing or the National League for Nursing with an upper-division major in nursing.
- Eligibility for R.N. licensure in Rhode Island.
- Undergraduate statistics course prior to NUR505.
- Candidates with non-nursing degrees will be evaluated on an individual basis. Completion or challenge of upper-division nursing courses is required prior to acceptance into the master's program.

For further information contact:

Ginette G. Ferszt, Ph.D., R.N., PMHCNS-BC
College of Nursing
University of Rhode Island
White Hall, 2 Heathman Road
Kingston, R.I. 02881-2021
401-874-5345 / ggf@uri.edu

To view the University catalog please go to:

<http://www.uri.edu/catalog/>

To apply please go to: <http://www.uri.edu/gsadmis/>
and click **Apply Online Now!**

COLLEGE OF NURSING MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the College of Nursing is to educate nursing students at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels; conduct, disseminate, and apply nursing research and scholarship; and contribute to the profession of nursing and to society through political, legal and professional activities that are aimed at improving health and health care of the people of Rhode Island and beyond.

Faculty are committed to prompting students' ethical development, critical thinking and motivation for life-long learning and responsible practice. The baccalaureate program prepares professional nurses to practice in multiple types of health care settings. The master's program prepares leaders who use advanced knowledge from nursing theory, research, practice, and leadership as advanced practice nurses, educators, or administrators. The doctoral program prepares nursing scholars and researchers who can contribute to the development of nursing knowledge. Students are sought from a wide range of cultural, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. The College encourages close student-faculty interaction and interdisciplinary research partnerships involving faculty, students, and practitioners from within and outside the University.

Faculty are responsive to changing health care needs and changing roles of nurses within society. Faculty respond through collaboration with professional organizations, governmental and other agencies, and other educational institutions, and with health care agencies. The College strives for excellence in teaching, research/scholarship in diverse scholarly activities, practice, and service through cooperative governance and ongoing evaluation.

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE OF NURSING

