

## Master of Science in Nursing Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner – (Online)

### 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 47-semester hour concentration includes core courses, concentration courses, and clinical practicums (total of 550 hours). All content courses are offered online and the clinical experiences are arranged in a geographically convenient area for the student.

### Requirements for Admission

Admission 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 Bachelors of Science in nursing degree from an accredited program
- A current resume
- Current non-restricted license to practice as a registered nurse (RN) in North Carolina
- Three current professional references
- A personal interview with a member of the PMHNP faculty
- One year clinical experience as a 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
- A statement of purpose essay describing the applicant’s interest in graduate study, career goals and the certificate’s relationship to those goals

### Requirements for Clinical Courses

Information regarding clinical requirements can be found in the ECU College of Nursing Student Handbook at:

<https://nursing.ecu.edu/student-handbook/>

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. The concentration director will review the post-master’s certificate student’s transcripts to determine the appropriate plan of study for the individual student.

### Curriculum Plan / MSN CORE COURSES \*

#### Summer Semester

|                       |   |          |
|-----------------------|---|----------|
| NURS 6080             | Theory for the Practice for Advanced Nursing* | 3        |
| NURS 6610             | Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing*       | 3        |
| <b>Semester Total</b> |   | <b>6</b> |

#### Fall Semester

|                       |  |          |
|-----------------------|--|----------|
| NURS 6050             | Human Physiology and Pathophysiology for Advanced Nursing* | 3        |
| NURS 6081             | Research for Advanced Nursing*                             | 3        |
| <b>Semester Total</b> |  | <b>6</b> |

#### Spring Semester

|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| NURS 6611 | Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing* | 3 |
|-----------|---|---|

|           |                                 |  |                         |
|-----------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| NURS 6083 | Healthcare Finance & Economics* |  | 3                       |
|           |                                 |  | <b>Semester Total 6</b> |

**Summer Semester**

|           |   |  |   |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| NURS 6082 | Influencing Health Quality, Safety, & Policy* |  | 3 |
|-----------|---|--|---|

|           |  |   |                         |
|-----------|--|---|-------------------------|
| NURS 7503 | Substance-Related & Addictive Disorders Across the Lifespan in Advance Provider Practice | 3 | <b>Semester Total 6</b> |
|-----------|--|---|-------------------------|

**Fall Semester**

|           |  |  |   |
|-----------|--|--|---|
| NURS 7501 | Neuroscience and Psychopharmacology in Advanced Nursing Practice ( <u>prerequisite</u> for clinical courses) |  | 3 |
|-----------|--|--|---|

|           |   |  |   |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| NURS 7502 | Psych Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role Development ( <u>prerequisite</u> for clinical courses) |  | 1 |
|-----------|---|--|---|

|           |  |  |   |
|-----------|--|--|---|
| NURS 6208 | Concepts of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (credit may apply) |  | 3 |
|-----------|--|--|---|

**Semester Total**

7

**Spring Semester**

|           |   |   |  |
|-----------|---|---|--|
| NURS 7520 | Diagnosis, Disease Management, and Psychotherapeutic Treatment of Adults in Advanced Nursing Practice | 3 |  |
|-----------|---|---|--|

|           |  |  |   |
|-----------|--|--|---|
| NURS 7521 | Advanced Nursing Practice Practicum and Supervisions with Adults |  | 2 |
|-----------|--|--|---|

**Semester Total 5**

**Summer Semester**

|           |  |  |   |
|-----------|--|--|---|
| NURS 7510 | Psychotherapeutic Interventions and Treatment of Couples, Families and Groups in Advanced Nursing Practice |  | 3 |
|-----------|--|--|---|

|           |   |  |   |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| NURS 7511 | Advanced Nursing Practice, Practicum and Supervision with Couple, Families and Groups |  | 2 |
|-----------|---|--|---|

**Semester Total 5**

**Fall Semester**

|           |   |  |   |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| NURS 7530 | Diagnosis, Disease Management and Psychotherapeutic Treatment of Children and Adolescents |  | 3 |
|-----------|---|--|---|

|           |  |  |   |
|-----------|--|--|---|
| NURS 7531 | Advanced Nursing Practice Practicum Supervisions in Children and Adolescents |  | 2 |
|-----------|--|--|---|

|           |   |  |   |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| NURS 6993 | Advanced Nursing Synthesis<br><i>(this course is taken during the semester of graduation)</i> |  | 1 |
|-----------|---|--|---|

**Semester Total 6**

**Curriculum Total Hours 47**

**Clinical courses & practicums for clinical experience: NURS 7520/7521, 7510/7511, and 7530/7311**

**Requirements for Graduation**

- All PMHNP graduate students are required to maintain a B or better in all core courses.
- 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 <https://gradschool.ecu.edu/> and in the Graduate School Office).
- Students are required to keep graduate program/health requirements and liability insurance requirements up to date throughout their clinical courses.
- All post-master's certificate students will be required to complete a terminal program assessment as advised by the concentration director in the final semester.

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](mailto: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.

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