

Master of Science in Nursing Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist (Online)

Concentration Description

The Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist concentration prepares nurses for an advanced practice nursing role in various types of health care settings. Nationally approved clinical nurse specialist competencies in adult-gerontology are the basis of the curriculum. Emphasis is placed on providing students with advanced theoretical knowledge and practice skills needed to improve patient care, nursing, and the organizational systems. This option provides preparation in the roles of clinician, educator, clinical consultant, researcher, program planner and leader. The 43-semester hour curriculum includes core courses, clinical core courses and concentration courses.

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
- 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)
- Two years clinical experience prior to admission
- A statement of purpose essay describing the applicant's interest in graduate study as an adult-gerontology CNS, career goals and the MSN degree's relationship to those goals
- Three professional references
- A personal interview with a member of the graduate faculty

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

First-Year Students

Fall Semester

NURS 6080	Theory for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS 6081	Research for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS 6959	Clinical Nurse Specialist Theory and Role Development	3
Semester Total		9

Spring Semester

NURS 6889	Advanced Evidence-based Practice for the CNS	3
NURS 6611	Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURS 6610	Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
Semester Total		9

Summer Semester

NURS 6960	Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum I	2
NURS 6082	Influencing Healthcare Quality, Safety and Policy	3
NURS 6083	Healthcare, Finance, and Economics	3
Semester Total		8
Year Total		26

Second-Year Students

Fall Semester

NURS 6961	Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum II	3
NURS 6910	Diagnostic Reasoning and CNS Advanced Practice	3
NURS 6050	Human Physiology and Pathophysiology for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
Semester Total		9

Spring Semester

NURS 6962	Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum III	3
NURS 6911	Acute and Chronic Health Concerns for the CNS	3
NURS 6208	Concepts of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURS 6993	Advanced Nursing Synthesis	1
Semester Total		10
Year Total		19
Curriculum Total		45

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 students are required to keep graduate program/health requirements and liability insurance requirements up to date throughout program.

Graduates are eligible to sit for national certification examinations as a clinical nurse specialist. This concentration was reviewed by the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists and meets the criteria for consistency with the standards set by that national organization.

Sample Curriculum Plan – Part Time

Fall Admit	Spring Admit
First-Year Students <u>Fall Semester</u> NURS 6080 Theory for the Practice of Advanced Nursing 3 NURS 6610 Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6</p> <u>Spring Semester</u> NURS 6081 Research for the Practice of Advanced Nursing 3 NURS 6050 Human Physiology and Pathophysiology for Advanced Nursing Practice 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6</p> <u>Summer Semester</u> NURS 6083 Health Care, Finance and Economics 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Year Total 15</p> Second-Year Students <u>Fall Semester</u> NURS 6208 Concepts of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for Advanced Nursing Practice 3 NURS 6959 Clinical Nurse Specialist Theory and Role Development 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6</p> <u>Spring Semester</u> NURS 6611 Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice 3 NURS 6889 Advanced Evidence-based Practice for the CNS 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6</p> <u>Summer Semester</u> NURS 6960 Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum I 2 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 2 Year Total 14</p> Third-Year Students <u>Fall Semester</u> NURS 6961 Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum II 3 NURS 6910 Diagnostic Reasoning and CNS Advanced Practice 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6</p> <u>Spring Semester</u> NURS 6911 Acute and Chronic Health Concerns for the CNS 3 NURS 6962 Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum III 3 NURS 6993 Advanced Nursing Synthesis 1 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 7 Year Total 13 Curriculum Total 45</p>	First-Year Students <u>Spring Semester</u> NURS 6080 Theory for the Practice of Advanced Nursing 3 NURS 6610 Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice 3 NURS 6611 Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice* 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 9</p> <u>Summer Semester</u> NURS 6050 Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice 3 NURS 6081 Research for the Practice of Advanced Nursing 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6 Year Total 15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*Students may choose to take 1 semester of full-time course load to graduate in Spring or extend their plan of study to graduate in Fall</p> Second-Year Students <u>Fall Semester</u> NURS 6959 Clinical Nurse Specialist Theory and Role Development 3 NURS 6082 Influencing Healthcare Quality, Safety, and Policy 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6</p> <u>Spring Semester</u> NURS 6208 Concepts of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for Advanced Nursing Practice 3 NURS 6889 Advanced Evidence-based Practice for the CNS. 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6</p> <u>Summer Semester</u> NURS 6960 Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum I 2 NURS 6083 Health Care, Finance and Economics 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 5 Year Total 17</p> Third-Year Students <u>Fall Semester</u> NURS 6961 Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum II 3 NURS 6910 Diagnostic Reasoning and CNS Advanced Practice 3 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 6</p> <u>Spring Semester</u> NURS 6911 Acute and Chronic Health Concerns for the CNS 3 NURS 6962 Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum III 3 NURS 6993 Advanced Nursing Synthesis 1 <p style="text-align: right;">Semester Total 7 Year Total 13 Curriculum Total 45</p>

The master's program at East Carolina University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20001. Phone 202.887.6791

The University

East Carolina University (ECU), a public, four-year university established in 1907, is located in Greenville, North Carolina. ECU has 11 degree-granting colleges/school/institutes. Serving a largely rural population in the coastal region of the state, ECU is one of 17 constituent institutions within the University of North Carolina (UNC) System. ECU accomplishes its mission - to be a national model for student success, public service and regional transformation - through education, research, creative activities and service. As of Fall 2018, ECU is the fourth largest institution in the UNC System. ECU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees. The UNC System is governed by a Board of Governors, which delegates significant responsibility to ECU's Board of Trustees. The Carnegie Commission on Higher Education classifies ECU as a Doctoral University: Higher Research Activity. In 2010 and 2015, ECU received the Community Engagement Classification from the New England Resource Center for Higher Education.

For more information, contact ECUNursingGradPrgrms@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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