DNP Electives Course Descriptions – Fall 2017

*IMPORTANT NOTE: 6000-level elective courses begin the week prior to the spring DNP Intensive. Make sure that you are in contact with course instructors for direction on how to participate in course orientations on-line.

Policy:
Post-masters and DNP students have the option to enroll in Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Specialty (MSN) nursing courses or an independent study to fulfill the elective requirements. The elective course must provide content applicable to the student’s current or potential practice or the scholarly project.

Procedure:
1) Prerequisite: Approval of student’s advisor and the course coordinator
2) The student must submit a written request for the elective approval to the student’s advisor.

Nursing 8060: Obesity and Weight Control Part 1: Biology, Physiology and Epidemiology
Nationwide and worldwide the obesity epidemic is growing and this has led to a significant number of adults and children with obesity-related comorbidities such as hypertension, dyslipidemia, type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Awareness of this trend necessitates greater understanding of the link between adiposity and metabolic disease. This course will review the biological and physiological control of food intake and energy balance. The course will evaluate the metabolic pathways in which food and macronutrient intakes are utilized to provide energy and mechanisms by which body weight and health are influenced. Public health issues associated with obesity, energy and macronutrient intakes will be discussed as well as the adequacy of intakes in meeting recommended requirements at various life stages. Critical evaluation of peer-reviewed literature will be used to study prevention and risk factors of overweight and obesity, consequences with regard to metabolic syndrome and other chronic disease states, and public health issues. This course builds on undergraduate/graduate preparation in anatomy, physiology and biochemistry. Fall [2] Silver.

N8063: Scholarly Writing I
This elective is designed to provide graduate-level nurses with the knowledge and skills to be successful in articulating concepts and ideas in a logical and scholarly manner throughout their doctoral studies. This course begins by providing some general principles of expository writing, ensuring each student has a clear understanding of APA formatting. Development of strategies to use in achieving professional and effective communication through the written word will be stressed. Learning activities assist students to (a) write from an outline; (b) critique their own work; and (c) review and critique drafts from a colleague. Fall and Spring [2] Karp and Kennedy.
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Nursing 8066: Curriculum Strategies for Health Professional Education
(Required course for students who have received a Nurse Faculty Loan) This course introduces the student to the foundations of learning theory and learning styles. The impact of technology on learning practices and the appropriate use of technology to facilitate learning are emphasized. Students will create electronic elements for effective learning and use a course management system. Copyright and fair use issues are discussed. Overall curriculum strategies that integrate content, organization, informatics and sequencing of courses are discussed. Students will design a learning program that integrates learning styles, technology use and a course management system. Prerequisite: Admission to the DNP program or consent of faculty. Fall and Spring [3] Krau.

N8067: Educational Evaluation for Learning in the Health Professions
(Required course for students who have received a Nurse Faculty Loan) This course explores issues related to evaluating educational offerings that employ technology. The advantages and disadvantages of both traditional and more novel approaches to evaluation are discussed. Students will learn how to create online surveys along with principles of test and survey management. Issues surrounding online testing including access, privacy, and data input accuracy and are emphasized. Overall program benchmarks are explored. Spring and Summer [3] Krau.

N8068: Online Methodologies for Nursing Education
This course prepares nurse educators to teach in blended, hybrid, and online environments. Students will learn effective course design and teaching/learning strategies for students in the online setting, including pedagogical approaches to facilitate social processes of online learning, collaboration, and engagement. Moving from theoretical to practical application, students will create an online learning module and evaluate a sample course for quality. Prerequisites: None, although completion of N8066 and N8067 is recommended. Fall [3] Kennedy.

N8069: Lean Methodology in Healthcare
This course focuses on the analysis and application of Lean principles to improve a process or system. This course builds on the quality improvement principles learned in NURS 442 (Quality Improvement and Patient Safety). Topics include a history of the Toyota production system including how to identify the eight wastes in healthcare, how to implement 5S, A3 concepts, data collection, and value stream mapping of current state and future state processes. Fall and Spring [2] Crutcher and Leming-Lee.
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This is a 3 credit hour elective course designed for graduate students interested in global health and will consist of seven units: Introduction to Global Health, Health Disparities, Health Care Delivery Systems, Evidence-based Practice, Non-communicable and Communicable illnesses, Trauma and Violence and Effective, Ethical Models for Global Health Engagement. The course will focus on best practices for allocating scarce resources and engaging in interdisciplinary global health work with diverse communities from a cultural, ethical and clinical perspective. Students will engage in learning through readings, synchronous and asynchronous discussions, case studies and written assignments. This course is designed for students interested in caring for and empowering underserved populations locally and abroad. Fall, Spring [3] Ziegler.

Nursing 8080: Independent Study (Contract between student and faculty sponsor (and advisor), variable credits [1-4]).
Individualized study with content related to the student’s practice and scholarly project. A contract is made between the student and faculty adviser, with copies for the student, faculty adviser, program director, and student's academic record. The student is responsible to identify study objectives, identify DNP competencies that are addressed within the course, specify the primary DNP competency related to this study and negotiate learning activities and evaluation method. Fall, Spring, Summer.
Prerequisite: Consent of faculty adviser. [Variable credit 1-3] Staff.
The independent study agreement is available at: https://www.nursing.vanderbilt.edu/current/forms.html
Students must print the form, fill it out, collect appropriate signatures, and return to VUSN Registrar, Sarah Donahoe.