

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING WITH A CONCENTRATION IN FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER (MSNFNP)

(Please see the *Graduate Program Offerings by Campus* chart in the catalog for a list of Herzing campuses offering this program.)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This online graduate degree in nursing will provide students with the academic knowledge, skills, and expertise to apply for certification as certified family nurse practitioners in primary care. Graduates will be prepared to have integrated praxis philosophy throughout multiple courses. Courses consist of core NU courses, specialty concentration courses, and clinical courses. This program is for licensed registered nurses (current, unrestricted license) who have a bachelor of science in nursing degree and are interested in advancing their careers to become board-certified family nurse practitioners.

Individuals considering the Master of Science program—particularly the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) concentration—should be aware that state requirements for availability of required clinical courses and eligibility to apply for licensure as a family nurse practitioner vary from state to state. Applicants should check with their applicable state board of nursing before enrolling in any graduate nursing program.

CORE MSN PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Upon completion of their program, the student should be able to:

1. Integrate scientific evidence from nursing and biopsychosocial disciplines, genetics, public health, quality improvement, and organizational sciences when designing and implementing outcome measures in diverse settings and through the lifespan.
2. Demonstrate leadership skills that emphasize ethical and critical decision-making, fiscal responsibility, inter-professional relationships that promote safe, quality care within a systems framework.
3. Apply methods, tools, performance measures, and evidence-based standards when evaluating quality indicators within an organizational system.
4. Synthesize theories, models and research findings inherent to nursing practice, education and management to guide an organization or healthcare system towards achieving successful outcomes.
5. Apply client/patient care technologies and informatics to coordinate and ensure safe quality care and promote effective communication among members of the inter-professional healthcare team.
6. Analyze ethical, legal and sociocultural factors to influence policy development and healthcare delivery systems that promote the health of individuals and populations.
7. Articulate a leadership role within inter-professional teams through effective communication, collaboration and consultation with other professionals to manage, coordinate care and provide safe, quality family-centered and population based care.
8. Incorporate organizational and culturally sensitive client and population centered concepts in the planning, delivery, management, and evaluation of direct and indirect evidence-based health promotion care and services to specified individuals, families and populations.
9. Implement scholarly activities in selected individuals, populations, and systems.

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students are expected to meet all the core MSN program outcomes as well as the Family Nurse Practitioner program outcomes. Upon completion of their program, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical thinking and holistic caring as an advanced practice nurse.
2. Analyze scientific literature for application to selected diagnoses and treatment plans.
3. Synthesize ethical principles into the management and evaluation of healthcare delivery concerns in culturally diverse care settings.
4. Articulate a personal philosophy and framework acknowledging professional and accrediting agency competencies relating to the role and scope of practice of the family nurse practitioner.
5. Implement the role of the family nurse practitioner in selected clinical settings.

POTENTIAL OCCUPATIONAL TITLES

Potential occupational titles for this program include, but are not limited to nurse practitioner, advance practice nurse and family nurse practitioner.

PROGRAM CONTENT

A minimum of 48.00 semester credit hours is required for graduation.

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

All courses, 15.00 semester credit hours, are required.

Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
HA 610	Health Policy and Management	NU 500 and NU 560 (Nursing students) or BU 600 (Business students)	3.00
NU 500	Theoretical Foundations for Nursing	None	3.00
NU 525	Technology and Nursing Informatics in Advanced Practice	NU 500 and NU 560	3.00
NU 530	Organizational Systems and Behaviors	NU 500 and NU 560	3.00
NU 560	Research Methods and Evidence-Based Practice	NU 500 (or NU 305 or NU 206)	3.00

REQUIRED DIRECT CARE CORE COURSES

All courses, 11.00 semester credit hours, are required.

Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
NU 609	Advanced Health Assessment	NU 500, NU 560, NU 621	4.00
NU 621	Advanced Pathophysiology	NU 500, NU 560	3.00
NU 633	Management of Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Practice	NU 500, NU 560/NU 609	4.00

REQUIRED COURSES IN FNP CONCENTRATION

All courses, 22.00 semester credit hours, are required.

Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
NU 580	Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	NU 500, NU 560	3.00
NU 623	Adult Healthcare	NU 500, NU 560, NU 609, NU 621, NU 633	4.00
NU 631	Healthcare of Women Across the Lifespan	NU 500, NU 560, NU 609, NU 621, NU 633	4.00
NU 632	Healthcare of Infants, Children, and Adolescents	NU 500, NU 560, NU 609, NU 621, NU 633	4.00
NU 626	Roles for Nurse Practitioners	NU 500, NU 560	3.00
NU 627	Geriatric Healthcare	NU 500, NU 560, NU 609, NU 621, NU 633, NU 626, NU 631, NU 632	4.00

Distribution of Contact Hours by Course				
Course Number	Lecture	Clinical Practicum	Total Contact Hours	Credits
HA 610	45.00		45.00	3.00
NU 500	45.00		45.00	3.00
NU 525	45.00		45.00	3.00
NU 530	45.00		45.00	3.00
NU 560	45.00		45.00	3.00
NU 580	45.00		45.00	3.00
NU 609	15.00	135.00	150.00	4.00
NU 621	45.00		45.00	3.00
NU 623	15.00	135.00	150.00	4.00
NU 626	45.00		45.00	3.00
NU 627	15.00	135.00	150.00	4.00
NU 631	15.00	135.00	150.00	4.00
NU 632	15.00	135.00	150.00	4.00
NU 633	60.00		60.00	4.00
Totals	495.00	675.00	1170.00	48.00