DNP Electives Course Descriptions – Fall 2015

NURS 6711 [Formerly N381B]: Technology Components of Informatics
This course explores the structure and function of networks and network based applications as they relate to their use within healthcare and healthcare education. Topics covered include basic concepts of infrastructure (IP addressing, routing and networks), the basic technology behind medical recording, BYOD (bring your own device) such as Cell Phones and Tablets, data collection and analysis tools, social networking including synchronous communication applications, and educational applications including asynchronous screen narration applications and Learning Management Systems. Fall [2] Gordon

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 [Formerly N460A] - 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 and Spring [2] Silver.
N8062 [Formerly N462]: Management of Psychiatric Issues for Non-Mental Health Clinical Providers

Expand clinical competencies of Non-Psychiatric Mental Health Advanced Practice Nurses in assessing, evaluating, diagnosing, and treating mental health problems. This course will identify common mental health disorders seen in the primary and acute care settings including the epidemiology, etiology, risk factors and diagnostic signs/symptoms of these disorders. It will also provide clinical practice guidelines, screening tools and evidenced based treatment approaches to provide a foundation for the clinician to identify and manage common disorders within their scope of practice and setting. Students will also recognize when psychiatric consultation or specialty care is indicated. The course is designed for the non-mental health provider and builds on undergraduate/graduate preparation in anatomy, physiology, biochemistry within a cultural context. Prerequisite: Specialization in a non-Psychiatric-Mental Health Advanced Practice Nurse role. **Fall [2]** Vanderhoef and Cloyd.

N8063 [Formerly N463]: 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]** Phillippi and Karp.

Nursing 8080 [Formerly N464.01]- 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](https://www.nursing.vanderbilt.edu/current/forms.html)

Students must print the form, fill it out, collect appropriate signatures, and return to VUSN Registrar, Logan Key.
Nursing 8090 [Formerly N465A] - Palliative Care I: Overview of Palliative Care and Physical Suffering: Adv. Pain and Symptom Management

This is the first of 3 didactic palliative care courses to be taken sequentially unless arrangements have been made with faculty. This course is designed to provide graduate level nurses with the knowledge and skills important to provide excellent symptom management for clients of all ages living with advanced complex illness and their families. Paradigms are explored which link traditional models of symptom management to the broader and deeper context of advanced illness in palliative and hospice care in all developmental stages of life. This course seeks to engage the student in an inter-professional understanding of the history of death and dying and how this impacts the care of individuals and families with complex medical conditions. Learning activities concentrate on the complexity of chronic disease and emphasize evidence-based pain and symptom management for the advanced practice nurse. Critically important constructs, such as transitional care and therapeutic communication will be deliberated. Prerequisite: Admission to the DNP program or consent of faculty. Fall [2] Lindstrom.

Nursing 8066 [Formerly N466] - 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 and Kennedy.

N8067 [Formerly N467]: 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. Fall, Spring and Summer [3] Krau and Kennedy.

N8068 [Formerly N468]: Advanced Concepts in Nursing Education

This course is designed to facilitate expertise in the application of advanced educational concepts, principles, and theories related to nursing education in the academic setting. The underlying premise for the value of such knowledge is that nurse educators encounter situations and issues that warrant systematic consideration, and reflection. Moreover, students will acquire competence in facilitating
learner development and role socialization, review accreditation parameters for nursing programs, and explore various aspects and topics such as legal, ethical and socio-cultural factors related to the role of the nurse educator. Prerequisites: 8066, 8067. Fall [3] Krau and Kennedy.

**N8069 [Formerly N469]: 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. Prerequisite: 8042. Fall and Spring [2] Crutcher and Leming-Lee.