WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

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Certificate Guidebook

Post-Master's Certificate, Nursing - Family Nurse Practitioner (Post-MSN)

The Family Nurse Practitioner Post Masters Certificate program (PMCNUFNP) program is a cutting-edge competency-based graduate program for nurses wishing to become advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) with the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) population focus. FNPs deliver cost-effective, holistic, high-quality primary care to individuals, families, and communities across the lifespan. The PMCNUFNPprogram will prepare graduates to excel in the assessment, diagnostic, prescriptive, and treatment processes of advanced practice primary care, as well as in delivering disease prevention and health promotion. In addition to the clinical skills graduates will develop in thePMCNUFNPprogram, graduates will be prepared to lead interprofessional healthcare teams, shape healthcare policy, and make business decisions in order to more efficiently deliver high-quality, cost-effective care to individuals, families, and communities across care settings. The PMCNUFNP program is a blended offering with the majority of the coursework delivered online, plus hands-on clinical practice experiences occurring in the local community. Graduates of the PMCNUFNP program are eligible to sit for the FNP national certification examination of their choice. Additionally, the certificate will prepare graduates to successfully transition to clinical practice in delivering primary care to individuals, families, and communities.

Understanding the Competency-Based Approach

Practically speaking, how do competency-based programs like those offered at Western Governors University (WGU) work? Unlike traditional universities, WGU does not award certificates based on completion of a certain number of credit hours or a certain set of required courses. Instead, you will earn your certificate by demonstrating your skills, knowledge, and understanding of important concepts.

Progress through a certificate program is governed not by the amount of time you spend in class but by your ability to demonstrate mastery of competencies as you complete required courses. Of course, you will need to engage in learning experiences as you review competencies or develop knowledge and skills in areas in which you may be weak. To help you acquire the knowledge and skills you need to complete your courses and certificate program, WGU provides a rich array of learning resources. Your program mentor will work closely with you to help you understand the competencies required for your program and to help you create a schedule for completing your courses. You will also work closely with instructors as you engage in each of your courses. As subject matter experts, instructors will guide you through the content you must master to pass the course assessments.

The benefit of this competency-based system is that it enables students who are knowledgeable about a particular subject to make accelerated progress toward completing a certificate, even if they lack college experience. You may have gained skills and knowledge of a subject while on the job, accumulated wisdom through years of life experience, or already taken a course on a particular subject. WGU will award your certificate based on the skills and knowledge that you possess and can demonstrate—not the number of credits hours on your transcript.

Accreditation

Western Governors University is the only university in the history of American higher education to have earned accreditation from four regional accrediting commissions. WGU's accreditation was awarded by (1) the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, (2) the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, (3) the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and (4) the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The university's accreditation status is now managed by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), which reaffirmed WGU's accreditation in February 2020. The WGU Teachers College is accredited at the initial-licensure level by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and by the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP). The nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The Health Information Management program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). The College of Business programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).

The Degree Plan

The focus of your program is your personalized Degree Plan. The Degree Plan is a detailed blueprint of the courses you will need to complete in order to earn your certificate. The Degree Plan also lays out the accompanying learning resources and assessments that compose your program. The list of courses in the Degree Plan is often referred to as the standard path. The amount of time it takes to complete your program depends on both the amount of new information you need to learn and the amount of time you plan to devote each week to study. Your program mentor and instructors will help you assess your strengths and development needs to establish a study plan.

Students vary widely in the specific skills and information they need to learn. For example, some students may be highly knowledgeable in a particular subject matter and would not need to engage in new learning opportunities. Other students may find that portions of the program require them to learn new information and that they need to take an online class or participate in a study module to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to fulfill program competencies in that area. Some individuals may be able to devote as little

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as 15–20 hours per week to the program, while others may need to devote more time. For this reason, pre-assessments are there to help your program mentor form a profile of your prior knowledge and create a personalized Degree Plan.

How You Will Interact with Faculty

At WGU, faculty serve in specialized roles, and they will work with you individually to provide the guidance, instruction, and support you will need to succeed and complete your certificate. As a student, it is important for you to take advantage of this support. It is key to your progress and ultimate success. Upon your enrollment, you will be assigned a program mentor—an expert in your field of study who will provide you with regular program-level guidance and support from the day you start until the day you complete your certificate. Your program mentor will set up regular telephone appointments (weekly at first) with you, which you will be expected to keep. The mentor will review program competencies with you and work with you to develop a plan and schedule for your coursework. Your program mentor will serve as your main point of contact throughout your program—helping you set weekly study goals, recommending specific learning materials, telling you what to expect in courses, and keeping you motivated. In addition to regular calls, your program mentor is available to help you resolve questions and concerns as they arise.

You will also be assigned to an instructor for each course. Instructors are doctoral-level subject matter experts who will assist your learning in each individual course. When you begin a new course, your assigned instructor will actively monitor your progress and will be in touch to offer one-on-one instruction and to provide you with information about webinars, cohort sessions, and other learning opportunities available to help you acquire the competencies you need to master the course. Your instructor can discuss your learning for the course, help you find answers to content questions, and give you the tools to navigate the course successfully. In addition, you will communicate with instructors by posting in the online learning community and participating in live discussion sessions such as webinars and cohorts.

You will be required to complete performance assessments to demonstrate your competency. These include reports, papers, presentations, and projects that let you demonstrate your mastery of the required competencies. A separate group of faculty members, called evaluators, will review your work to determine whether it meets requirements. Evaluators are also subject matter experts in their field of evaluation. If your assessment needs further work before it “passes,” these evaluators, who review your work anonymously, will provide you with instructional feedback to help you meet evaluation standards and allow you to advance.

Connecting with Other Mentors and Fellow Students

As you proceed through your Degree Plan, you will have direct contact with multiple faculty members. These communications can take a variety of forms, including participation in one-on-one discussions, chats in the learning communities, and live cohort and webinar opportunities. As a WGU student, you will have access to your own personal MyWGU Student Portal, which will provide a gateway to your courses of study, learning resources, and learning communities where you will interact with faculty and other students.

The learning resources in each course are specifically designed to support you as you develop competencies in preparation for your assessments. These learning resources may include reading materials, videos, tutorials, cohort opportunities, community discussions, and live discussions that are guided by instructors who are experts in their field. You will access your program community during your orientation course to network with peers who are enrolled in your program and to receive continued support through professional enrichment and program-specific chats, blogs, and discussions. WGU also provides Student Services associates to help you and your program mentor solve any special problems that may arise.

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Orientation

The WGU orientation course focuses on acquainting you with WGU's competency-based model, distance education, technology, and other resources and tools available for students. You will also utilize WGU program and course communities, participate in activities, and get to know other students at WGU. The orientation course must be completed before you can start your first term at WGU.

Transferability of Prior College Coursework

Because WGU is a competency-based institution, it does not award certificates based on credits but rather on demonstration of competency. Students entering Post-Masters Certificate programs must have completed a graduate degree from an accredited institution and their degree verified before being admitted to WGU.

Click here for the Student Handbook

WGU does not waive any requirements based on a student's professional experience and does not perform a "résumé review" or "portfolio review" that will automatically waive any program requirements. Program requirements and transferability rules are subject to change in order to keep the program content relevant and current.

Remember, WGU's competency-based approach lets you take advantage of your knowledge and skills, regardless of how you obtained them. Even when you do not directly receive credit, the knowledge you possess may help you accelerate the time it takes to complete your program.

Continuous Enrollment, On Time Progress, and Satisfactory Academic Progress

WGU is a "continuous enrollment" institution, which means you will be automatically enrolled in each of your new terms while you are at WGU. Each term is six months long. Longer terms and continuous enrollment allow you to focus on your studies without the hassle of unnatural breaks between terms that you would experience at a more traditional university. At the end of every six-month term, you and your program mentor will review the progress you have made and revise your Degree Plan for your next six-month term.

WGU requires that students make measurable progress toward the completion of their degree programs every term. We call this "On-Time Progress," denoting that you are on track and making progress toward on-time completion. As full-time students, graduate students must enroll in at least 8 competency units each term, and undergraduate students must enroll in at least 12 competency units each term. Completing at least these minimum enrollments is essential to On-Time Progress and serves as a baseline from which you may accelerate your program. We measure your progress based on the courses you are able to pass, not on your accumulation of credit hours or course grades. Every time you pass a course, you are demonstrating that you have mastered skills and knowledge in your program. For comparison to traditional grading systems, passing a course means you have demonstrated competency equivalent to a "B" grade or better.

WGU assigns competency units to each course in order to track your progress through the program. A competency unit is equivalent to one semester credit of learning. Some courses may be assigned 3 competency units while others may be as large as 12 competency units.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is particularly important to students on financial aid because you must achieve SAP in order to maintain eligibility for financial aid. We will measure your SAP quantitatively by reviewing the number of competency units you have completed each term. In order to remain in good academic standing, you must complete at least 66.67% of the units you attempt over the length of your program—including any courses you add to your term to accelerate your progress. Additionally, during

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your first term at WGU you must pass at least 3 competency units in order to remain eligible for financial aid. We know that SAP is complex, so please contact a financial aid counselor should you have additional questions. *Please note: The Endorsement Preparation Program in Educational Leadership is not eligible for federal financial aid.

Courses

Your Degree Plan includes courses needed to complete your program. To obtain your certificate, you will be required to demonstrate your skills and knowledge by completing the assessment(s) for each course. In general there are two types of assessments: performance assessments and objective assessments. Performance assessments contain, in most cases, multiple scored tasks such as projects, essays, and research papers. Objective assessments include multiple-choice items, multiple-selection items, matching, short answer, drag-and-drop, and point-and-click item types, as well as case study and video-based items. Certifications verified through third parties may also be included in your program. More detailed information about each assessment is provided in each course of study.

Learning Resources

WGU works with many different educational partners, including enterprises, publishers, training companies, and higher educational institutions, to provide high-quality and effective learning resources that match the competencies you are developing. These vary in type, and may be combined to create the best learning experience for your course. A learning resource can be an e-textbook, online module, study guide, simulation, virtual lab, tutorial, or a combination of these. The cost of most learning resources is included in your tuition and Learning Resource Fee. They can be accessed or enrolled for through your courses. Some program-specific resources are not covered by your tuition, and you will need to cover those costs separately. WGU also provides a robust library to help you obtain additional learning resources, as needed.

Mobile Compatibility:

The following article provides additional details about the current state of mobile compatibility for learning resources at WGU.

Student Handbook article: Can I use my mobile device for learning resources?

Standard Path

As previously mentioned, competency units (CUs) have been assigned to each course in order to measure your academic progress. A standard plan for a student for this program would look similar to the one on the following page. Your personal progress can be faster, but your pace will be determined by your time commitment, and your determination to proceed at a faster rate.

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Changes to Curriculum

WGU publishes an Institutional Catalog, which describes the academic requirements of each degree program. Although students are required to complete the program version current at the time of their enrollment, WGU may modify requirements and course offerings within that version of the program to maintain the currency and relevance of WGU's competencies and programs. When program requirements are updated, students readmitting after withdrawal from the university will be expected to re-enter into the most current catalog version of the program.

Standard Path *for* Post-Master's Certificate, Nursing - Family Nurse Practitioner (Post-MSN)

Course Description	CUs	Term
Advanced Pathophysiology for the Advanced Practice Nurse	4	1
Advanced Pharmacology for the Advanced Practice Nurse	4	1
Advanced Health Assessment for the Advanced Practice Nurse	4	2
Adult Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse	3	2
Pediatric Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse	3	2
Special Populations Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse	3	3
Health Promotion of Patients and Populations Across the Lifespan	3	3
Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship I	3	3
Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship II	3	4
Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship III	3	4

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Areas of Study for Post-Master's Certificate, Nursing - Family Nurse Practitioner (Post-MSN)

The following section includes the areas of study in the program, with their associated courses. Your specific learning resources and level of instructional support will vary based on the individual competencies you bring to the program and your confidence in developing the knowledge, skills, and abilities required in each area of the program. The Degree Plan and learning resources are dynamic, so you need to review your Degree Plan and seek the advice of your mentor regarding the resources before you purchase them. Courses build upon one another, thus completing each course in the order listed below is recommended.

Nurse Practitioner Core

Advanced Pathophysiology for the Advanced Practice Nurse

Advanced Pathophysiology for the Advanced Practice Nurse prepares the graduate nursing student for the role of an advanced practice nurse with the competencies and skills needed to recognize disease states, identify disease progression, and assess and evaluate symptoms for patients across the lifespan. This course will help the graduate nursing student gain a deeper understanding of pathophysiology from the cellular to the systems level and will provide graduate nursing students with the knowledge and skills to determine the etiology, underlying physiological changes, and the human affective responses to alterations in health. This course will also prepare the graduate nursing student to communicate the pathophysiology of disease processes to providers and patients.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *Begin your course by discussing your course planning tool report with your instructor and creating your personalized course plan together.*
- *The graduate evaluates foundational concepts of pathophysiology, including the genetic, immunological, and lifestyle factors associated with the development of disease, in order to improve patient education and health outcomes.*
- *The graduate evaluates the pathophysiology of diseases affecting the HEENT, neurologic, and endocrine systems, as well as the neurobiology of psychiatric disorders, to determine disease management and improve patient education and health outcomes.*
- *The graduate evaluates the pathophysiology of diseases affecting the reproductive and pulmonary systems to determine disease management and improve patient education and health outcomes.*
- *The graduate evaluates the pathophysiology of diseases affecting the hematologic, cardiovascular, and lymphatic systems to determine disease management and improve patient education and health outcomes.*
- *The graduate evaluates the pathophysiology of diseases affecting the renal, urologic, and gastrointestinal systems to determine disease management and improve patient education and health outcomes.*
- *The graduate evaluates the pathophysiology of diseases affecting the musculoskeletal and integumentary systems to determine disease management and improve patient education and health outcomes.*

Advanced Pharmacology for the Advanced Practice Nurse

Advanced Pharmacology for the Advanced Practice Nurse prepares the graduate nursing student for the role of an advanced practice nurse with the competencies and skills for prescribing and monitoring medication safely and effectively. This course will prepare the graduate nursing student to apply pharmacotherapeutics in primary care settings by utilizing the pivotal basis of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. This course will also prepare the graduate nursing student to select the correct medication, describe the rationale for that selection to the patient, family, and other providers, and to effectively monitor the patient to promote positive drug outcomes.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *Begin your course by discussing your course planning tool report with your instructor and creating your personalized course plan together.*
- *The graduate integrates the practice of evidence-based medicine and pharmacology principles to effectively, safely, and responsibly make decisions to improve patient care and address underlying health concerns.*
- *The graduate analyzes how the nervous system is affected by neuropharmacology to improve quality of life and health outcomes.*
- *The graduate analyzes how pharmacology affects the pulmonary and cardiovascular systems to inform decisions that*

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improve quality of life and health outcomes.

- *The graduate synthesizes pharmacological changes for patients in the transition of care to improve the overall patient experience.*
- *The graduate analyzes how pharmacology affects wellness, nutrition, and women's and men's health to improve quality of life and health outcomes.*
- *The graduate analyzes how pharmacology affects the gastrointestinal and endocrine systems, as well as obesity, to improve quality of life and health outcomes.*
- *The graduate analyzes how pharmacology affects infectious diseases, allergies, and musculoskeletal disorders to make evidence-based decisions to improve quality of life and health outcomes.*

Advanced Health Assessment for the Advanced Practice Nurse

Advanced Health Assessment prepares the graduate nursing student to perform the role of an advanced practice nurse with the essential competencies necessary to provide primary health care to patients and families of diverse populations. Students will develop the skills needed for systematically collecting and analyzing subjective and objective patient data. Through simulation and clinical experiences, students will use data to determine current and ongoing patient health status, predict health risks, and identify health-promoting activities for patients across the lifespan. Advanced Health Assessment will prepare the nursing graduate with the critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and advanced diagnostic skills required for advanced practice nursing. Upon completion of Advanced Health Assessment, the graduate will be able to synthesize individual and systems level subjective and objective data to facilitate the differential diagnosis processes. Also, the graduate will be able to clearly describe to patients and providers the pertinent health assessment findings and rationale supporting the diagnostic process.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *Begin your course by discussing your course planning tool report with your instructor and creating your personalized course plan together.*
- *The graduate generates a comprehensive patient health assessment using subjective and objective data.*
- *The graduate evaluates the head, eyes, ears, nose, and throat (HEENT), lymphatic, central nervous, and psychiatric systems using a holistic assessment approach to document normal and abnormal findings and incorporate lifespan considerations.*
- *The graduate evaluates the pulmonary, cardiovascular, and peripheral vascular systems using a holistic assessment approach to document normal and abnormal findings and incorporate lifespan considerations.*
- *The graduate evaluates the gastrointestinal and urinary systems using a holistic assessment approach to document normal and abnormal findings and incorporate lifespan considerations.*
- *The graduate evaluates the female and male reproductive systems using a holistic assessment approach to document normal and abnormal findings and incorporate lifespan considerations.*
- *The graduate evaluates the musculoskeletal, integumentary, and peripheral nervous systems using a holistic assessment approach to document normal and abnormal findings and incorporate lifespan considerations.*

Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty

Adult Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse

Adult Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse prepares the graduate nursing student to perform the role of an advanced practice nurse with the essential competencies and skills necessary to provide primary healthcare to adult patients and families. This course will prepare the graduate nursing student to demonstrate competence in leading health promotion and disease prevention activities; diagnosing, managing, and coordinating care for patients with acute and chronic conditions; and empowering patients to pursue positive health outcomes. This course will also prepare the graduate nursing student to collaborate with adult patients to develop effective plans of care that build patient self-efficacy in the process of preventing and treating disease. The following prerequisite courses are required prior to taking this course: All MSN Core courses and NP Core courses.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *Begin your course by discussing your course planning tool report with your instructor and creating your personalized course plan together.*
- *The graduate recommends evidence-based health promotion activities to achieve optimal health outcomes in the care of adults.*

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- *The graduate synthesizes evidence-based management of in-office health emergencies and acute illnesses affecting the eyes, ears, nose, and throat, as well as the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems, in adult patients to achieve optimal health outcomes.*
- *The graduate synthesizes evidence-based management of acute illnesses affecting the urinary and renal, dermatological, and musculoskeletal systems, as well as infectious diseases, in adult patients to achieve optimal health outcomes.*
- *The graduate synthesizes evidence-based management of chronic diseases affecting the pulmonary, cardiovascular, and gastrointestinal systems in adult patients to achieve optimal health outcomes.*
- *The graduate synthesizes evidence-based management of chronic musculoskeletal, rheumatic, and neurologic diseases in adult patients to achieve optimal health outcomes.*
- *The graduate synthesizes evidence-based management of chronic endocrine, metabolic, hematologic, urinary and renal, and mental health diseases in adult patients to achieve optimal health outcomes.*

Pediatric Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse

Pediatric Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse prepares the graduate nursing student to perform the role of an advanced practice nurse with the essential competencies and skills necessary to provide primary healthcare to pediatric patients, from infancy through adolescence, and their families in an outpatient setting. This course will prepare the graduate nursing student to demonstrate competence in leading health promotion and disease prevention activities; in diagnosing, managing, and coordinating care for pediatric patients with acute and chronic conditions; and in empowering patients and their families in pursuing positive health outcomes. This course will also prepare the graduate nursing student to collaborate with pediatric patients and their families in developing effective plans of care that build patient and family self-efficacy in the process of preventing and treating disease. The following prerequisite courses are required prior to taking this course: All MSN Core courses and NP Core courses.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *Begin your course by discussing your course planning tool report with your instructor and creating your personalized course plan together.*
- *The graduate synthesizes age-specific approaches to the evaluation of infant development, including management of abnormal developmental conditions, to achieve optimal health outcomes.*
- *The graduate synthesizes age-specific approaches to the evaluation of early childhood development, including management of abnormal developmental conditions, to achieve optimal health outcomes.*
- *The graduate synthesizes age-specific approaches to the evaluation of school-age child development, including management of abnormal developmental conditions, to achieve optimal health outcomes.*
- *The graduate synthesizes age-specific approaches to the evaluation of adolescent development, including management of abnormal developmental conditions, to achieve optimal health outcomes.*
- *The graduate analyzes guidelines for healthy environmental conditions, behaviors, and nutrition to promote pediatric wellness.*
- *The graduate analyzes the roles of self-perception, sexual development, mental health, family relationships, and values to create health promotion plans for pediatric development.*
- *The graduate synthesizes infectious disease prevention, immunizations, and prescribing guidelines to achieve optimal health outcomes in pediatric patients.*
- *The graduate analyzes the importance of physical activity and rest in the overall wellness plan of pediatric patients.*
- *The graduate synthesizes evidence-based care management plans for system-specific pediatric health conditions and disorders.*

Special Populations Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse

Special Populations Primary Care for the Advanced Practice Nurse prepares the graduate nursing student to perform the role of an advanced practice nurse with the essential competencies and skills necessary to provide primary healthcare to unique patient populations in the outpatient setting. This course will prepare the graduate nursing student to demonstrate competence in leading health promotion and disease prevention activities; in diagnosing, managing, and coordinating care for patients with specific disease processes; and in empowering patients and their families in pursuing positive health outcomes. This course will also prepare the graduate nursing student to collaborate with unique patient populations and their families in developing effective plans of care that build self-efficacy in the process of preventing and treating specific disease processes. The following prerequisite courses are required prior to taking this course: All MSN Core courses and NP Core courses.

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This course covers the following competencies:

- *Begin your course by discussing your course planning tool report with your instructor and creating your personalized course plan together.*
- *The graduate evaluates the social and physical healthcare needs of women, using evidence-based practice to formulate a holistic plan of care.*
- *The graduate evaluates the healthcare needs of pregnant and postpartum patients, integrating interprofessional collaboration and evidence-based practice to optimize maternal and fetal outcomes.*
- *The graduate evaluates the social and physical healthcare needs of men, using evidence-based practice to formulate a holistic plan of care.*
- *The graduate analyzes the physical and socioemotional healthcare needs of LGBTQIA populations to advocate for effective, ethically appropriate, and culturally responsive care.*
- *The graduate analyzes the needs of older adults and their caregivers to develop a comprehensive plan of geriatric care that maximizes health, minimizes disease burden, and promotes autonomy.*
- *The graduate evaluates the needs of diverse populations to develop personalized care plans to improve the quality of life for individuals and communities.*
- *The graduate integrates a systems approach across the healthcare continuum by incorporating evidence-based, multimodal, and interprofessional therapies to promote high-quality patient outcomes.*
- *The graduate demonstrates advanced practice procedures needed to successfully perform job tasks in the primary care setting.*

Health Promotion of Patients and Populations Across the Lifespan

Health Promotion of Patients and Populations Across the Lifespan prepares the graduate nursing student to perform the role of an advanced practice nurse with the essential competencies and skills necessary to provide health promotion activities to individuals and populations. This course will prepare the graduate nursing student to incorporate individual characteristics, population factors, and social determinants of health (SDOH) in determining the most efficient use of finite resources in leading health promotion activities. This course will also prepare the graduate nursing student to lead health promotion activities for individuals and specific populations across the lifespan. The following prerequisite courses are required prior to taking this course: All MSN Core courses and NP Core courses.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *Begin your course by discussing your course planning tool report with your instructor and creating your personalized course plan together.*
- *The graduate assesses health barriers unique to specific individuals and populations, as well as determinants of health, foundations of wellness, and evidence-based lifestyle interventions, to determine health promotion and preventative care solutions.*
- *The graduate evaluates the role of behavior and lifestyle intervention on wellness to enhance community and population health outcomes.*
- *The graduate assesses specific areas of need in the population, including the efficacy of existing community support systems, opportunities to better serve vulnerable groups, and the role of the nurse practitioner in identifying solutions.*
- *The graduate assesses current population health stakeholders, resources, policy, and programs to determine their effect on community health outcomes.*
- *The graduate proposes novel, evidence-based, collaborative, and patient-centered nursing plans to address community health needs.*
- *The graduate recommends innovative healthcare solutions for nurse practitioners to enable continuous improvement and address individual and community healthcare needs.*

Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship I

Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship I prepares the graduate nursing student to perform the role of an advanced practice nurse with the essential competencies and skills necessary to deliver primary care to individuals, families, and groups throughout the life span. Using the precepted clinical setting, this course will provide opportunities for the graduate nursing student to combine competencies developed in preparatory advanced practice coursework to deliver patient-centered healthcare. This course will also provide the graduate nursing student with opportunities to conduct advanced health assessments and use the competencies of advanced pathophysiology, pharmacology, and health promotion for individuals and populations across the life span to build self-efficacy in individuals and groups, determine correct diagnoses, and establish plans of care that include patient and population preferences. All MSN Core Courses, NP Core courses, and

FNP Specialty courses must be completed before taking this course.
This course is eligible for an In Progress grade. Please see the Grading Scale Policy for more information.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *The graduate demonstrates advanced health assessment techniques that are comprehensive and focused to gather patient health data in the care of individuals and groups across the lifespan moving from novice to advanced beginner.*
- *The graduate synthesizes subjective and objective data from across the patient lifespan to provide accurate diagnoses moving from novice to advanced beginner.*
- *The graduate creates evidence-based and family-centered health plans, including guidelines, clinical expertise, consumer preferences and values, organizational context, and resource limitations moving from novice to advanced beginner.*
- *The graduate evaluates the effectiveness of patient health plans in order to modify the plan, offer additional education, or refer patients to improve quality outcomes moving from novice to advanced beginner.*

Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship II

Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship II prepares the graduate nursing student to perform the role of an advanced practice nurse with the essential competencies and skills necessary to deliver primary care to individuals, families, and groups throughout the life span. In the precepted clinical setting, the student will combine competencies developed in preparatory advanced practice coursework to deliver consumer-centered healthcare. The student will conduct advanced health assessments and use the competencies of advanced pathophysiology, pharmacology, and health promotion for individuals and populations across the life span to build self-efficacy in individuals and groups, determine correct diagnoses, and establish plans of care that include consumer and population preferences. All MSN Core Courses, NP Core courses, and FNP Specialty courses must be completed before taking this course.
This course is eligible for an In Progress grade. Please see the Grading Scale Policy for more information.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *The graduate demonstrates advanced health assessment techniques that are comprehensive and focused to gather patient health data in the care of individuals and groups across the lifespan as an advanced beginner.*
- *The graduate synthesizes subjective and objective data from across the patient lifespan to provide accurate diagnoses as an advanced beginner.*
- *The graduate creates evidence-based and family-centered health plans, including guidelines, clinical expertise, consumer preferences and values, organizational context, and resource limitations as an advanced beginner.*
- *The graduate evaluates the effectiveness of patient health plans in order to modify the plan, offer additional education, or refer patients to improve quality outcomes as an advanced beginner.*

Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship III

Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Internship III prepares the graduate nursing student to perform the role of an advanced practice nurse with the essential competencies and skills necessary to deliver primary care to individuals, families, and groups across throughout the lifespan. In the precepted clinical setting, the student will combine competencies developed in preparatory advanced practice coursework to deliver consumer-centered healthcare. Therefore, the graduate will conduct advanced health assessments and utilize the competencies of advanced pathophysiology, pharmacology, and health promotion for individuals and populations across the life span to build self-efficacy in individuals and groups, to determine correct diagnoses, and to establish plans of care that include consumer and population preferences. All MSN Core Courses, NP Core courses, and FNP Specialty courses must be completed before taking this course.
This course is eligible for an In Progress grade. Please see the Grading Scale Policy for more information.

This course covers the following competencies:

- *The graduate demonstrates advanced health assessment techniques that are comprehensive and focused to gather patient health data in the care of individuals and groups across the lifespan as a competent provider.*
- *The graduate synthesizes subjective and objective data from across the patient lifespan to provide accurate diagnoses as a competent provider.*
- *The graduate creates evidence-based and family-centered health plans, including guidelines, clinical expertise, consumer preferences and values, organizational context, and resource limitations as a competent provider.*
- *The graduate evaluates the effectiveness of patient health plans in order to modify the plan, offer additional education, or refer patients to improve quality outcomes as a competent provider.*

Accessibility and Accommodations

Western Governors University is committed to providing equal access to its academic programs to all qualified students. WGU's Accessibility Services team supports this mission by providing support, resources, advocacy, collaboration, and academic accommodations for students with disabilities and other qualifying conditions under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). WGU encourages student to complete the Accommodation Request Form as soon as they become aware of the need for an accommodation. Current and prospective students can reach the Accessibility Services team Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. MST at 1-877-HELP-WGU (877-435-7948) x5922 or at ADASupport@wgu.edu.

Need More Information? WGU Student Services

WGU's Student Services team is dedicated exclusively to helping you achieve your academic goals. The Student Services office is available during extended hours to assist with general questions and requests. The Student Services team members help you resolve issues, listen to student issues and concerns, and make recommendations for improving policy and practice based on student feedback.

Student Services team members also assist with unresolved concerns to find equitable resolutions. To contact the Student Services team, please feel free to call 877-435-7948 or e-mail studentservices@wgu.edu. We are available Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., mountain standard time. Closed Sundays.

If you have inquiries or concerns that require technical support, please contact the WGU IT Service Desk. The IT Service Desk is available Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., mountain standard time. To contact the IT Service Desk, please call 1-877-HELP-WGU (877-435-7948) or e-mail servicedesk@wgu.edu. The support teams are generally closed in observance of university holidays.

For the most current information regarding WGU support services, please visit "Student Support" on the Student Portal at http://my.wgu.edu.

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