

Clinical Site Requirements

Below are the clinical site requirements needed to meet the objectives for each course. Course faculty must approve the clinical preceptor and site before students begin.

N7140 Advanced Health Assessment and Promotion – 90 clinical hours

Overview- Since this course has a lifespan focus, you need to be able to assess patients with a variety of illnesses and ranging from children to older adults.

Setting - A family practice clinic setting would be ideal for students in all areas of study. If you need to find some clinical time during non-traditional clinic hours, consider locating an Urgent Care Center that has evening and weekend hours. CNS students may complete 30 clinical hours in a specialty clinic in which one body system is the focus (e.g. cardiology, neurology, orthopedics, etc.) in the population (adult or pediatric) of their choice.

Preceptors- The preferred preceptor for students in all areas of study would be an FNP; however, you may work with an ANP, PNP, MD, DO, or PA as long as you meet the lifespan age requirement.

Telehealth acceptable - No

N8210 Special Healthcare Needs of Children in the School Setting – 90 clinical hours

Overview - All 90 hours will be spent in clinical with a pediatric health care provider where advanced assessment skills are applied to evaluate the family and child for specialty care visits.

Setting - A pediatric specialty clinic, teen clinic, or school setting would be ideal. CNS students should choose a pediatric specialty area (e.g. endocrine, neurology, ENT, pulmonary, etc). Students must have hands on interaction with patients.

Preceptors- APRN (PNP or Peds CNS preferred), MD/DO; PA considered on an individual basis; may have up to 2 different preceptors

Telehealth acceptable - Limited telehealth considered

N8400 & N8410 Management of Adult & Geriatric Primary Care 1 & 2 – 90 clinical hours each

Overview - the focus of the courses is primary care management of chronic illness, including acute exacerbation.

Setting - an outpatient family medicine or internal medicine clinic are the required sites for FNP students. ER, urgent care, convenient care, or walk-in clinics are not acceptable sites for these courses. CNS students should choose a specialty specific setting (e.g. wound/ostomy, neurology, palliative care, etc.) depending upon the CNS student's career goals.

Preceptors - For FNP students, we prefer that you work with a family nurse practitioner but will allow you to work with an MD, DO, ANP, or GNP for only one of the courses (N8400 OR N8410). For CNS students, you should look for an AGCNS preceptor that meets your educational content needs.

Telehealth acceptable - Limited telehealth considered.

N8420 Newborn through Adolescence Primary Care – 90 clinical hours

Overview - The focus of the Newborn through Adolescence course is pediatric primary care. Hours will be spent in clinical with a pediatric health care provider where advanced assessment and diagnostic skills are applied to evaluate and manage the family and child for well, acute minor illness or stable chronic illness visits.

Setting - A pediatric primary care practice is the required setting for at least 50 hours of clinical to gain experience of foundational growth and development, red flags, care of the well child, milestones as well as anticipatory guidance. Students may choose a pediatric outpatient specialty clinic of interest for up to 40 hours of clinical.

Preceptor - PNP or Pediatrician on in primary care preferred, FNP or Family Practice Physician acceptable if there is a sufficient number of pediatric patients.

Telehealth acceptable – Yes.

N8430 Reproductive and Sexual Health Primary Care – 90 clinical hours

Overview - This course involves clinical experiences across the broad range of reproductive health.

Approximately 45 hours should include advanced assessment and diagnostic skills applied to the reproductive needs of men and women, including older, post-menopausal women. The other 45 hours of clinical should include assessing and managing pregnant women.

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Setting - Women's health centers, men's health centers, sexually transmitted disease (STD) clinics, teen clinics, Planned Parenthood and OB/GYN practice settings would be ideal. Students may find access to this wide variety of clinical experiences in one setting or may need to divide their time between two or more settings.

Preceptors – APRN, MD/DO, PA

Telehealth acceptable – No

N8540 Advanced Diagnostics & Reasoning – 90 clinical hours

Overview - This course is designed to allow the student to expand upon knowledge of advanced assessment, diagnostics, and procedural skills as well as gain increasing specialty-specific knowledge.

Setting - Clinical settings that permit the student to perform advanced clinical procedural skills as well as refine interpretation of advanced assessment, reasoning and diagnostics is ideal. An emergency or urgent care setting is the preferred setting for at least 50 hours of clinical; however, depending on the student's personal career goals, 40 hours of clinical can occur in a specialized setting: outpatient, inpatient, acute or critical care (adult or pediatric). A setting in which the student only does patient education, staff development, or performance improvement projects would not be appropriate.

Preceptor- can include MD, DO, APRN or PA.

Telehealth acceptable – No

N8545 Advanced Diagnostics & Reasoning II – 90 clinical hours

Overview - This course is designed for the newly credentialed APRN as part of the first 1 – 2 semesters of the DNP completion. This course will allow the student to expand upon basic skills and knowledge of advanced assessment, diagnostics, and procedural skills from N8540 to gain increasing specialty-specific knowledge.

Setting - Clinical settings that permit the student to perform advanced clinical procedural skills as well as refine interpretation of advanced assessment, reasoning and diagnostics is ideal. An emergency or urgent care setting is ideal as is a specialty setting such as oncology, orthopedics, cardiology, etc. outpatient, inpatient, acute or critical care (adult or pediatric).

Preceptor- can include MD, DO, APRN or PA. A setting in which the student only does patient education, staff development, or performance improvement projects would not be appropriate.

Telehealth acceptable – No

N8610 Diagnostics and Psychopharmacology for Mental Health Nurses – 90 clinical hours

Overview - Students will need to locate a clinical practice site where individuals with a broad range of psychiatric diagnoses receive care (e.g., single purpose substance abuse treatment centers are not appropriate). Students must be able to actively participate in client assessments, diagnosis, and medication management each time they are onsite. Students must work primarily with adults and may not work solely with children or adolescents. Agencies that are not focused primarily on the treatment of patients with mental health problems will not meet the course objectives (e.g., A fibromyalgia clinic that services patients with co-morbid mental health problems is not an appropriate clinical site for this course.)

Site- Inpatient or outpatient psychiatric facilities, psychiatric private practice, nursing home practice

Preceptor- MD, DO, PA, PMHCNS, PMHNP

Telehealth acceptable - Limited telehealth considered.

N8620 Brief Individual Psychotherapy for Mental Health Nurses* – 90 clinical hours

Overview - Since the focus of this course is brief individual psychotherapy, locate a clinical setting in which you will conduct short-term therapy with individual adult clients (private practice, community health centers, university student health centers, etc.). The focus of therapy must be the planned short-term interventions such as adults who are experiencing time-limited crises and have no other long-term mental health problems, or adults who have persistent conditions who are stabilized but are currently confronted with short-term stressors.

Site- Psychiatric private practice, community health centers, university health centers, inpatient and outpatient psychiatric facilities, nursing home psychological practice

Preceptor- practice must focus on psychotherapy and not medication management):

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PMHCNS, PMHNP, Psychologist, LCSW, LPC, LCPC
Telehealth acceptable – Yes

*N8620 and N8660 will be combined into one course, N8620 Brief Individual and Family Psychotherapy, 4 credit hours (2 didactic and 2 clinical/120 clinical hours) offered in the Spring Semester. This change will be implemented over two years for students who have completed one or the other courses. For students who began the program Fall 2020, plans of study are being updated. Any shortfall in clinical hours will be made up in N8980 or N9070.

N8640 Group Therapy and Social Skills Training* – 90 clinical hours

Overview - Since the focus of this course is both group therapy and social skills training, two separate clinical sites may be required. For the Social Skills training, a clinical setting where you can see mentally ill clients (e.g. transitional housing, a halfway house, or a nursing home) would be a good place. For the Mental Health Promotion Group, you must find a clinical setting where you educate participants on mental health promotion topics (relaxation, medication adherence, assertiveness training, anger management, etc.).

Site -Social Skills Group, Homeless shelter, transitional housing, halfway house, nursing home, outpatient psychiatric facility, Mental Health Promotion Group, Outpatient psychiatric facility, women's shelter, nursing home, homeless shelter, church.

Preceptor- (must focus on group therapy or supervise group therapies)- PMHCNS, PMHNP, Psychologist, LCSW, LPC, LCPC

Telehealth acceptable – Limited telehealth considered.

N8660 Mental Health Nursing Interventions for Families – 90 clinical hours

Overview-Since the focus of this course is family mental interventions, you must locate a clinical setting in which you will conduct therapy with families in crisis (private practice, community health centers, family counseling centers, etc.).

Site- Psychiatric/Psychological Private Practice, inpatient or outpatient psychiatric facility, community health centers, family counseling centers.

Preceptor - (must focus on family therapy): PMHCNS, PMHNP, Psychologist, LCSW, LPC, LCPC

Telehealth acceptable – Limited telehealth considered.

N8680 Pediatric Mental Health Assessment and Treatment – 90 clinical hours

Overview - Since the focus of this course is pediatric mental health assessment and treatment, locate a facility or agency in which you can conduct mental health assessments with individual pediatric clients who are experiencing time-limited crises and have no other long-term mental health problems, or children who have persistent conditions that are stable but currently confronted with short-term stressors.

Site - Inpatient or outpatient psychiatric facilities, psychiatric private practice, children's' homes.

Preceptors -(must be diagnosing and prescribing provider; may have small percentage (no more than 24 hours) of hours also with child therapist): Psychiatrist, PMHCNS, PMHNP, small percentage of hours (no more than 24 hours) with a Psychologist, LCSW, LPC, LCPC

Telehealth acceptable – Limited telehealth considered.

N8710 Clinical Management of Acute & Critical Care Problems - 90 clinical hours

Overview - Clinical hours can be specialty specific (e.g. cardiovascular ICU, oncology unit, etc.) or more general (e.g. general medical or general surgical unit), depending upon the student's personal career goals.

Site- inpatient acute care/critical care unit(s) within hospital or Long-Term Acute Care facility; may have up to 2 settings.

Preceptor – must have hands-on interaction with patients; APRN (CNS preferable), MD/DO; PA; may have up to 2 different preceptors

Telehealth acceptable – Limited telehealth considered.

N8720 Symptom Management of Acute and Chronic Illness - 90 clinical hours

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Overview - Clinical hours can occur in a variety of healthcare settings depending upon the student's personal career goals. Since the focus of the course is teaching client symptom and self-management strategies, clinical settings that emphasize patient and nursing staff education would be ideal. The setting can be specialty specific (e.g., inpatient pain management service, outpatient cardiac rehabilitation, pediatric diabetes clinic, etc.) or more general (e.g. general medical or general surgical unit).

Site- inpatient, outpatient/primary care, may have up to 2 settings.

Preceptor – must have hands-on interaction with patients; APRN (CNS preferred), MD/DO; PA considered on an individual basis; may have up to 2 different preceptors

Telehealth acceptable – Limited telehealth considered.

N8920 Quality, Safety, & Performance Outcomes – 60 clinical hours; (not included in APRN certification requirements)

Overview - The course involves clinical which will be completed by working individually and in groups to carry out a variety of quality improvement (QI) exercises. A case study incorporating a variety of QI tools and methodologies from the course will be utilized to present a comprehensive QI process and plan which will be presented to the class. The clinical component is under the direction of faculty and no outside clinical site or preceptor is required for this course.

Site – N/A

Preceptor – N/A

Telehealth acceptable – N/A

N8950 Teaching Nursing Practicum – 240 clinical hours (not included in APRN certification requirements)

Overview - The focus of this course is teaching didactic and clinical to undergraduate nursing students.

Site - An academic institution with a baccalaureate school of nursing would be ideal, though a SON with an associate degree program will be accepted if there is no baccalaureate program in your geographic area. You should choose a program that has a course that you would like to teach that is in your area of expertise. The course must have both a didactic and clinical component. Your schedule will be whatever your chosen SON's schedule is. Some of you may be doing an 8-week class while others may have a 15-week class. Some of you may have clinicals two days a week while others have clinical only one day per week.

Preceptor - Your preceptor must be a nursing faculty member with a minimum of a master's degree in nursing.

N8954 Distance-mediated Teaching Nursing Practicum – 240 clinical hours (not included in APRN certification requirements)

Overview - Clinical in this course will occur with nursing faculty at the SSON who teach online. Course faculty will pair students with their faculty mentor based on student expertise and needs. In addition, course faculty will arrange an on- campus event for each student; thus, requiring an on-campus visit.

Site – A graduate or undergraduate course taught online at the Sinclair School of Nursing.

Preceptor – A graduate level nursing faculty member at the Sinclair School of Nursing. The N8954 course faculty will confer with students and then coordinate the didactic and on campus requirements to best meet the students' needs with available courses being taught during the semester the N8954 course is taken.

N8960 Leadership in Nursing and Healthcare Systems Practicum – (180 clinical hours)

Overview – This course focuses on leadership and management strategies for nurse leaders that are implemented in various health care settings. Students will have the opportunity to operationalize nurse leader theory content learned in the prerequisite courses.

Setting - Leadership and management principles will be explored in didactic and clinical settings via a preceptor clinical experience with a nurse leader. Readings of the course support the exploration of leadership skills and management strategies in the practicum setting.

Site – The student selects a health care setting to precept with a master's prepared nurse. The nurse must have a minimum of a BSN. The master's degree in nursing is preferred but may be in other area of study as approved by the faculty member.

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N9980 Advanced Clinical Nursing Practicum - clinical hours vary

Overview - The number of clinical hours for this course varies depending upon the student's number of prior faculty supervised advanced practice clinical hours. The focus of this course is to provide the MSN or MSN prepared Post graduate certificate student with the opportunity to refine clinical knowledge and leadership skills necessary to evaluate practice problems, monitor outcomes, and implement innovative models of care.

Setting- variety of healthcare settings (e.g., emergency department, inpatient, outpatient, rehabilitation, etc.) working with their population (adult or pediatric) and specialty of interest consistent with specialty program focus; up to 3 different settings per semester. Student must have hands on interaction with patients.

Preceptor - master's degree required, doctoral degree preferred; up to 3 different preceptor per semester but limited to 1 preceptor per 60 clinical hours.

APRN students – APRN within same specialty preferred or other APRN or MD/DO; PA considered on individual basis; Arizona students may not use a PA preceptor.

Telehealth Acceptable – No. Exception for PMHNP. A limited number of telehealth may be considered under special circumstances and at the approval of the course instructor or advisor.

N9070 DNP Clinical Residency – clinical hours variable;

Overview - The number of clinical hours for this course varies depending upon the student's number of prior faculty supervised advanced practice clinical hours. The focus of this course is to provide the DNP student or DNP prepared post graduate certificate student with the opportunity to refine clinical knowledge and leadership skills necessary to evaluate practice problems, monitor outcomes, and implement innovative models of care.

Setting- variety of healthcare settings (e.g. emergency department, inpatient, outpatient, rehabilitation, etc.) working with their population (adult or pediatric) and specialty of interest consistent with specialty program focus; up to 3 different settings per semester

Preceptor - master's degree required, doctoral degree preferred; up to 3 different preceptor per semester
APRN students – APRN within same specialty preferred or other APRN or MD/DO; PA considered on individual basis; Arizona students may not use a PA preceptor. Student must have hands on interaction with patients

Leadership students – educator, leader, program director

N9080 DNP Residency Project – 180 clinical hours total, 60 clinical hours in each section (not included in APRN certification requirements)

Overview - This course involves working on an in-depth practice-change quality improvement project that will impact their population and specialty of interest. See Graduate Handbook for specific requirements for each section.

Setting- can occur in a variety of healthcare settings, for APRN students must be consistent with program focus (primary care versus acute care, adult and/or pediatric); the preferred setting would provide the student with the opportunity to impact a rural or underserved population or address a significant healthcare system need; same setting for all 3 sections.

Preceptor/DNP Project Committee Site member (3rd reader) – master's degree required; doctoral degree preferred; affiliated with setting for DNP Project; same preceptor for all 3 sections