NURSE PRACTITIONER, ADULT GERONTOLOGY ACUTE CARE (CNP)

Post-Graduate Certificate in Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
Unit: School of Nursing (https://louisville.edu/nursing)
Program Website
Academic Plan Code: NUPRCNPAGA

Program Information
The post-graduate program prepares registered nurses for national certification eligibility and licensure in an advanced practice specialty. Advanced Practice registered nurses or registered nurses that hold a terminal degree (i.e., PhD, EdD, DNP) are eligible to apply.

Specialties Available
- Post-Graduate Certificate Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Post-Graduate Certificate Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

The patient population of the adult-gerontology acute care NP practice includes the entire spectrum of adults including adolescents, adults and older adults. The adult–gerontology ACNP provides care to patients who are characterized as “physiologically unstable, technologically dependent, and/or are highly vulnerable to complications” (AACN Scope and Standards, 2006, p 9). These patients may be encountered across the continuum of care settings and require frequent monitoring and intervention. The role encompasses a spectrum of care ranging from disease prevention to acute and critical care management to “stabilize the patient’s condition, prevent complications, restore maximum health and/or provide palliative care” (AACN, p. 10). Acute care nurse practitioners work in the intensive care unit (ICU), Progressive care unit (PCU) other hospital units and specialty providers’ offices.

Admission Requirements
The post-graduate program prepares registered nurses for national certification eligibility and licensure in an advanced practice specialty. Advanced Practice registered nurses or registered nurses that hold a terminal degree (i.e., PhD, EdD, DNP) are eligible to apply.

The following materials must be submitted:

1. Completed UofL Graduate Admissions Application (https://louisville.edu/graduate/apply), including application fee.
2. Official transcripts representing all college course work with a recommended cumulative graduate grade point average of at least 3.25 on 4.0 scale. Baccalaureate and Graduate degree must be earned from an accredited nursing program (by NLN, CCNE or ACEN). A Master’s or Doctorate degree from a regionally accredited university is required. Applicants for this program must be nationally certified to practice as an advanced practice nurse.
3. Two letters of recommendation from individuals chosen from among: former faculty, current or immediate past employer, or other nursing/health professional who can speak of academic and/or professional nursing capabilities and potential. These letters should accompany the Letter of Evaluation form required by the School of Interdisciplinary and Graduate Studies.
4. Goal Statement that discusses career goals, areas of expertise, and reasons for pursuing a Post-Graduate degree. Maximum of 2 pages; double spaced; 12-point font.
5. Current Resume or CV.
6. RN verification of licensure from the Board of Nursing. Eligibility for an RN license from the Kentucky Board of Nursing.
7. Verification of advanced practice certification from a national certification agency (i.e. AANP, AACN, NAPNAP) if applicable.
8. Proof of English Proficiency. International students for whom English is not their primary language must show English language proficiency by:
   - demonstration of a degree awarded from an acceptable English language institution, or
   - acceptable examinations: TOEFL; International English Language Testing System (IELTS); or successful completion of the exit examination for the advanced level of the intensive English as a Second Language Program. Recommended test scores are available on the University International Student website.

Program Requirements
Pre-Requisite Coursework
Students who have previously completed any of the prerequisite coursework in an accredited Nursing graduate degree program may be waived from taking those courses at UofL to meet certificate requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 741</td>
<td>Advanced Pathophysiology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 740</td>
<td>Advanced Pharmacology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 742</td>
<td>Advanced Physical Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
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Minimum Total Hours 10

Post-Graduate Certificate Coursework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 779</td>
<td>Diagnosis &amp; Management in Acute Care I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 781</td>
<td>Diagnosis &amp; Management in Acute Care II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 760</td>
<td>Gerontology Pharmacology</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 780</td>
<td>Procedures and Diagnostics for the Acute Care NP II</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 787</td>
<td>Clinical Practicum 1</td>
<td>3</td>
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Clinical Practicum courses can be completed at the student’s desired pace. A student may elect to take variable (1-3) credit hours for any practicum course. 1 credit hour = 84 clinical contact hours. A total of 500 clinical hours must be completed to earn this certificate. A variable (1-3) credit hours clinical completion course, NURS 778, is available for students who need additional course credits to complete the 500 required clinical hours.