



School of Nursing

MISSION STATEMENT

Through the efforts of a professionally prepared and caring faculty and staff, Point Loma Nazarene University School of Nursing aspires to prepare M.S.N. graduates who are leaders among their peers in a global community. These graduates think critically, value diversity, and are committed to the highest spiritual and ethical good. These M.S.N. graduates expand educational opportunities that empower individuals to optimal health and effective citizenship; and work to become models of creative Christian leadership who seek to improve the quality of life in their communities.

Graduates are exposed to a broad foundation of knowledge to meet the rapidly changing needs of today's healthcare environment. PLNU combines instruction, research, and public service opportunities that advance the intellectual, spiritual, professional, and economic potential of its M.S.N. graduates for productive nursing practice in settings around the globe.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Complete and have accepted the graduation application at the time indicated by the program.
2. Complete the approved graduate program of 40-43 units, including the thesis or project.
3. Achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.000 or higher. A minimum grade of B- is required to progress in the program.
4. Pay all tuition and fees in full.

M.S.N. CURRICULAR OUTCOMES

Each masters level nursing course is designed to include competency development which incorporates the following five curricular outcomes:
Critical Thinking – A learned approach to the practice of nursing which reflects intellectual development in reasoning, analysis, research and decision-making.

Therapeutic Nursing Interventions – A series of theory-based, nurse initiated actions which are goal-directed and designed to optimize health.

These interventions are client-centered, interdisciplinary, research based, and focus on empowering the client.

Communication – A dynamic, interactive process that transmits thoughts, ideas, and feelings through the use of symbols which are culturally appropriate.

Service – The provision of leadership in clinical practice and the socio/political environment

Spirituality – The dimension of life that provides meaning to existence. Within the context of vital Christianity, ethics arise out of a spiritual framework. The ethical practice of nursing adheres to the ethical and legal standards of the nursing process.

M.S.N. COURSE PROGRESSION

Year One—FALL SEMESTER

COURSE #	TITLE	UNITS
GNSG 601	Theoretical Foundations and Research	4
GNSG 602	Teaching Faithfully: Communicating with Adult Learners in a Diverse Society	2
	Total units	6

SPRING SEMESTER

GNSG 605	Advanced Assessment and Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	2
GNSG 605L	Advanced Assessment and Health Promotion Across the Lifespan Practicum	2
GNSG 606	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
	Total units	7

Option: GNSG 604 Thesis/Project1 unit

SUMMER SESSIONS

GED 670	Advanced Educational Psychology	3
GED 672	Philosophy of Education	3
	Total units	6

Option: GNSG 604 Thesis/Project1 unit
GNSG 610L, 611L, 612L, 613L . . .1-3 units

Year Two—FALL SEMESTER

GNSG 603	Healthcare Issues, Ethics and Politics . . . . .	.2
GNSG 608	Development of Educational Programs . . . . .	.3
GNSG 608L	Nursing Education Role Practicum . . . . .	.2
	Total units . . . . .	.7

Option: GNSG 604 Thesis/Project1 unit
GNSG 610L, 611L, 612L, 613L . .1-3 units

SPRING SEMESTER

GNSG 604	Thesis . . . . .	.1-3
GNSG 607	Advanced Pharmacology . . . . .	.3
GNSG 610, 611, 612, 613	- Capstone Seminar . . . . .	.2
	Total units . . . . .	.8

SUMMER SESSIONS

GNSG 604	Thesis . . . . .	.1-3
GNSG 610L, 611L, 612L or 613L	- Practicums . . . . .	.3-6
	Total units . . . . .	.6-12
NURSING TOTAL . . . . .		.40-43 UNITS

** 6 units required for those seeking CNS certification*

M.S.N. CORE COURSES

COURSE #	TITLE . . . . .	.UNITS
GNSG 601	Theoretical Foundations and Research in Nursing . . . . .	.4
GNSG 602	Teaching Faithfully: Communicating With Adult Learners in a Diverse Society . . . . .	.2
GNSG 603	Healthcare Issues, Ethics and Politics From a Christian Perspective . . . . .	.2
GNSG 604	Thesis/Project in Nursing (3-3) . . . . .	.6
	Total . . . . .	.14

CLINICAL CORE COURSES

COURSE #	TITLE . . . . .	.UNITS
GNSG 605	Advanced Assessment and Health Promotion . . . . .	.2
GNSG 605L	Advanced Assessment and Health Promotion Practicum . . . . .	.2
GNSG 606	Advanced Pathophysiology . . . . .	.3
GNSG 607	Advanced Pharmacology . . . . .	.3
	Total . . . . .	.10

EDUCATION CORE COURSES

COURSE #	TITLE . . . . .	.UNITS
GED 670	Advanced Educational Psychology . . . . .	.3
GED 672	Philosophy of Education . . . . .	.3
GNSG 608	Development of Educational Programs in Nursing . . . . .	.3
GNSG 608L	Nursing Education Role Practicum . . . . .	.2
	Total . . . . .	.11

CLINICAL FOCUS COURSES (ONE REQUIRED)

COURSE #	TITLE . . . . .	.UNITS
<i>Select one of the following clinical focus areas:</i>		
GNSG 610	Mental Health Nursing Capstone Seminar . . . . .	.2
GNSG 610L	Mental Health Nursing . . . . .	.3-6*
GNSG 611	Medical-Surgical Nursing Capstone Seminar . . . . .	.2
GNSG 611L	Medical-Surgical Nursing . . . . .	.3-6*
GNSG 612	Gerontological Nursing Capstone Seminar . . . . .	.2
GNSG 612L	Gerontological Nursing . . . . .	.3-6*
GNSG 613	Family Health Nursing Capstone Seminar . . . . .	.2
GNSG 613L	Family Health Nursing . . . . .	.3-6*
	Total Units for Degree . . . . .	.40-43

POST-MSN CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST CURRICULUM

Year One

Fall

GNSG 608	Development of Educational Programs . . . . .	.3
GNSG 608L	Nursing Education Role Practicum . . . . .	.2

Spring

GNSG 605	Advanced Assessment and Health Promotion . . . . .	.2
GNSG 605L	Advanced Assessment and Health Promotion Practicum . . . . .	.2
GNSG 606	Advanced Pathophysiology3

Summer

GNSG 610L, 611L, 612L, or 613L	Clinical3
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Year Two

Fall

GED 670	Advanced Educational Psychology3
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Spring

GNSG 607	Advanced Pharmacology3
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Summer

GNSG 610, 611, 612 or 613	Capstone2
GNSG 610L, 611L, 612L, or 613L	Clinical3
	TOTAL . . . . .	.26

Minimum number of units at PLNU19
Total number of clinical hours500

POST-MSN NURSE EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE CURRICULUM

Year One

Fall

GNSG 602 Teaching Faithfully: Communicating With Adult Learners in a Diverse Society2

GED 670 Advanced Educational Psychology . . .3

Spring

GNSG 605 Advanced Assessment and Health Promotion2

GNSG 605L Advanced Assessment and Health Promotion Practicum2

GNSG 606 Advanced Pathophysiology3

Summer

GED 672 Philosophy of Education3

Year Two

Fall

GNSG 608 Development of Educational Programs3

GNSG 608L Nursing Education Role Practicum2

Spring

GNSG 607 Advanced Pharmacology3

TOTAL23

Minimum number of units at PLNU13

Total number of clinical hours169

M.S.N. Core Courses

GNSG 601 (4) THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS AND NURSING RESEARCH

This course focuses on the interaction of theory, research and practice in the development of clinical or educational outcomes. Middle range theories from nursing and other disciplines are examined as a basis for practice and research. Historical events, philosophical views and conceptual frameworks, which have influenced the development of theory and research, are explored. In addition, the course includes both qualitative and quantitative research methodology.

GNSG 602 (2) TEACHING FAITHFULLY:

COMMUNICATING WITH ADULT LEARNERS IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY

This course will focus on the development of skills necessary for effective professional communications, both written and oral. Scientific writing and effective oral presentation principles will be discussed. Wesleyan thought as it relates to nursing education is integrated through interdisciplinary teaching. A review of the history

of nursing education based on religious teachings is discussed with an emphasis on the role of faith in education and nursing practice.

GNSG 603 (2) HEALTHCARE ISSUES, ETHICS AND POLITICS FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

This course is an introduction to global, federal, state and local issues as they affect health services. Selected health policies are considered in their historical perspective, present status, and future direction within their social, economic and political contexts. All are studied through the lens of a Christian perspective.

GNSG 604 (1-6) THESIS/PROJECT IN NURSING

To complete requirements for the M.S.N. with an emphasis in Nursing Education, the student must complete and defend a thesis or project that applies to the educational process in a program of nursing, hospital education setting, or patient education program. This thesis/project should be conducted over two semesters of instruction with mentorship from a designated faculty member. For students that choose to start their thesis/project early, they must enroll in 1-3 unit segments for each semester in which they intend to work on the project. Students must enroll in a cumulative total of 6 units during the time period of completing other classes. For thesis/projects not completed during this time period, students will be charged a GNSG 604 Extension Fee each semester (fall, spring, and summer) until finished and approved. Minimum of six units required for degree. Student must enroll in one unit of credit until completion of thesis. Graded Credit/No Credit.

Clinical Core Courses

GNSG 605 (2) ADVANCED ASSESSMENT AND HEALTH PROMOTION ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

This course provides a focused examination of theories of assessment across the lifespan. A study of human development theories focusing on the concepts of health promotion, disease prevention, and nursing care

GNSG 605L (2) ADVANCED ASSESSMENT AND HEALTH PROMOTION ACROSS THE LIFESPAN PRACTICUM

Consists of opportunities for application of nursing assessment and health promotion theory as it relates to advanced practice nursing role. (For CNS certification, two clinical units equates to 80 clinical hours). Graded Credit/No Credit.

GNSG 606 (3) ADVANCED PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

This course is designed to provide the student with a comprehensive theoretical foundation of the phenomena that produce alterations in human physiologic function across the life span.