

**518 Social Studies: The United States in Comparison/Contrast With the Rest of the World** (3) SU. Topics to be considered include: culture, standards of living, rights and freedoms, environmental concerns, types of political systems, levels of economic development, historical experiences, religions, ethnic groups, and social classes.

**519 Social Studies: Special Study of World Regions** (3) SU. The study in terms of commonalities and differences among countries in the regions of Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America, covering for each region society, history, economy, and politics.

**799 Social Studies: Seminar Practicum Capstone** (3) (Prerequisite: Twelve hours in specialty core) SU. This course is designed to integrate and extend the subject matter covered in the preceding four specialty area courses. A special focus will involve the identification and completion of one or more projects involving the specialty and education core, and/or exploration of a related topic. The project(s) should be designed so they can be used in an appropriate professional setting.

## GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Coordinator of the Family Nurse Practitioner: Dr. Deborah L. Hopla

#### PROGRAM TRACK FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING WITH MAJOR IN FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

The FMU Master of Science in Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN/FNP) program track has been developed in response to the healthcare need for primary care practitioners. This program provides BSN -prepared registered nurses (RNs) access to a high quality graduate education in order to serve the healthcare needs locally and beyond. The MSN/FNP track prepares graduates to be community-oriented primary care practitioners who care for patients across the lifespan. FNP's provide comprehensive health promotion, evaluation of presenting problems, and continuing care of acute and chronic conditions in a primary care setting. In addition to clinical practice, the track emphasizes epidemiological approaches to clinical problems, holistic care, family and community systems approach, use of technology, cost considerations, collaboration, consultation, referral processes, theory utilization, and evidence-based practice. Graduates will be eligible for licensure as Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN), and for certification by the American Nurses Credentialing Centers (ANCC) or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

Enrollment in the MSN/FNP program track is limited. Students must be accepted as graduate degree students. Courses in the MSN/FNP track are offered one day a week, but practicum hours will generally occur during business hours at the primary care facility where the learner's clinical experience is scheduled. Courses are delivered in hybrid format using both traditional classroom instruction and online components. Practicum hours are extensive, and students should plan to allocate sufficient time to complete them. Advisement for this program track is done on an ongoing basis by the faculty of the program.

#### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for admission as a graduate degree student, an applicant must submit the following materials to the FMU Nursing

1. The graduate application for admission and nonrefundable application fee.
2. Official transcripts(s) of all undergraduate and graduate work from accredited institutions.
3. Three letters of confidential recommendation from professional associates or former professors who can attest to the academic

potential of the applicant. One letter must be submitted from a current supervisor.

4. A current resume or curriculum vita (CV).
5. A written statement of the applicant's career goals, 300 to 500 words in length, including the applicant's interest and reasons for seeking admission to the MSN/FNP or MSN/Nurse Educator track.
6. Current unencumbered license to practice nursing in South Carolina or other National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Nurse License Compact state license.

All of the above materials must be submitted to:

Francis Marion University  
 Graduate Nursing  
 Lee Nursing Building  
 Room 144  
 4822 E. Palmetto Street  
 Florence, SC 29506

Completed applications are reviewed for merit by the Nursing Graduate Committee. Determination of merit is based upon consideration of all components of the application packet. In the admissions decision process, consideration is given to both the merit of each application received and to the number of slots available in the program at the time of application. Offers for admission are given to those applicants who show the most promise of success in graduate studies.

To be guaranteed timely consideration for acceptance, all of the above materials should be submitted one week before classes.

#### COURSE REPETITION

Progression policies in the MSN/FNP program track will be in compliance with the FMU catalog for graduate programs. In order for a student to successfully progress through the MSN program, the student must complete his or her degree within a six-year period; achieve course grades of C or better; and maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average for all graduate courses. Students will be allowed to retake one course due to academic failure; no retaking of courses will be permitted for clinical failures.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE/FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

To receive a Master's Degree in Nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner from FMU, a student must fulfill the following requirements:

1. **Complete 55 graduate credit hours**, which include 630 practicum hours.
  - a) Graduate Nursing Core Courses (All MSN programs)..... 12 Hours
 

APRN 501	Advanced Practice Role: Theory and Knowledge Development
APRN 502	Biostatistics
APRN 503	Advanced Research and Evidence-based Practice
APRN 504	Health Policy and Leadership
  - b) Direct Care Core.....19 hours
 

APRN 505	Population Health and Epidemiology
APRN 506	Health Systems and Risk Management
APRN 507	Patient Education and Advocacy
APRN 601	Advanced Pathophysiology
APRN 602	Advanced Pharmacology
APRN 603	Advanced Physical Assessment and Health Promotion