

POST-GRADUATE APRN CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Post-Graduate Certificate (PGC): CNS Tracks

These courses will assist the student in preparing for various aspects involved in the role of the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) based on the spheres of influence and clinical specialty. An overview of advanced practice roles and their implementation and utilization in health care systems will be explored. The investigation of issues and trends related to quality, legislation, policy, and reimbursement as they affect advanced nursing practice will be emphasized.

An individualized gap analysis of previous academic credit will be conducted for each applicant to determine courses needed to fulfill the requirements at PLNU.

- Any CNS applicant may submit prior course syllabi and clinical hours log to be reviewed for course equivalency.
- All graduate students take 3Ps courses (NSG 6006 - Advanced Pathophysiology, NSG 6007 - Advanced Pharmacology, and NSG 6008 - Advanced Health Assessment) as foundational courses for the advanced nursing practice role. Any applicant may submit prior course syllabi to be reviewed for course equivalency. A prerequisite or transfer 3Ps course must meet the required criteria per California Board of registered Nursing for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). Syllabi may be required to verify equivalency prior to acceptance of any course toward PLNU Graduate Nursing program requirements. Students who have not taken APRN Core Prerequisite Courses may take them concurrently with their program at PLNU.

The CNS Role practicum hours will allow the student to apply and master the role of the CNS within a variety of specialty-specific clinical settings. The PGC: Adult-Gerontology CNS and PGC: Pediatric CNS tracks consist of 2 Graduate core courses (5 units), 4 APRN core courses (9 units), and 9 CNS-specialty courses (21 units, which includes 12 units/500 clinical practicum hours).

The PGC: Adult-Gerontology CNS with Women's Health Specialty track consists of 2 Graduate core courses (5 units), 4 APRN core courses (9 units), and 11 CNS-specialty courses (24 units, which includes 12 units/580 clinical practicum hours).

Code	Title	Units
Graduate Core Courses ¹		
NSG 6003	Following Faithfully: Healthcare Policy and Ethics	3
NSG 6009	Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	2
APRN Core Courses		
NSG 6006	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG 6007	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NSG 6008 and NSG 6008L	Advanced Health Assessment Across the Lifespan and Advanced Health Assessment Across the Lifespan Practicum	3
CNS-Specialty Courses		21-24
Choose one (1) specialty from the following:		
<i>Adult Gerontology CNS Courses:</i>		

NSG 6014	Advanced Health Assessment: Adult Gerontology
NSG 6034	Adult Gerontology CNS Role Acquisition I
NSG 6044	Adult Gerontology CNS Role Acquisition II
NSG 6054	Adult Gerontology CNS Role Acquisition III
NSG 6064 (A,B,C,D,E)	Adult Gerontology CNS Role Practicum ²
<i>Pediatric CNS Courses:</i>	
NSG 6015	Advanced Health Assessment: Pediatrics
NSG 6035	Pediatric CNS Role Acquisition I
NSG 6045	Pediatric CNS Role Acquisition II
NSG 6055	Pediatric CNS Role Acquisition III
NSG 6065 (A,B,C,D,E)	Pediatric CNS Role Practicum ³
<i>Adult Gerontology CNS with Women's Health Specialty Courses:</i>	
NSG 6014	Advanced Health Assessment: Adult Gerontology
NSG 6016	Advanced Health Assessment: Women's Health
NSG 6034	Adult Gerontology CNS Role Acquisition I
NSG 6036	Women's Health CNS Role Acquisition I
NSG 6044	Adult Gerontology CNS Role Acquisition II
NSG 6054	Adult Gerontology CNS Role Acquisition III
NSG 6066 (A)	Women's Health CNS Role Practicum
Total Units	
35-38	

¹ 0-9 units, *per gap analysis*.

² 500 clinical hours required.

³ 80 clinical hours required.

Post-Graduate Certificate (PGC): FNP Track

These courses will assist the student in preparing for various aspects involved in the role of the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) based on National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) standards.

An individualized gap analysis of previous academic credit will be conducted for each applicant to determine courses needed to fulfill the requirements at PLNU.

- Any FNP applicant may submit prior course syllabi to be reviewed for course equivalency.
- Any applicant who has taken Advanced Health Assessment, Advanced Pathophysiology, and Advanced Pharmacology in the last five (5) years (5 years or less at the time of matriculation) must provide the syllabi to be reviewed for equivalency. If the course is determined to be an equivalent course taken within the last five (5) years and the grade earned was a B- or higher, the course may be waived. (Note: Determination of equivalency does not necessarily mean that PLNU transfer credit has been awarded. Equivalent courses may not appear on the PLNU transcript.)
- At a minimum, a total of 750 direct patient care hours are to be included in the past APRN graduate education program and post-graduate certificate program, specifically to meet the end-of-program hours for the new NP role and/or new population (National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education, 2022, Criterion III. N.).

The PGC: FNP track consists of 4 APRN core courses (9 units) and FNP-specialty courses (33 units, which includes 16 units/750 clinical practicum hours).

Code	Title	Units
Graduate Core Courses ¹		
NSG 6006	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG 6007	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NSG 6008 and NSG 6008L	Advanced Health Assessment Across the Lifespan and Advanced Health Assessment Across the Lifespan Practicum	3
FNP-Specialty Didactic and Practicum Courses		
NSG 7030 and NSG 7030L	Introduction to Advanced Practice Nursing and Diagnostic Reasoning and Diagnostic Reasoning and Procedures Practicum	4
NSG 7031 and NSG 7031L	Health Management I: Adults with Acute and Episodic Conditions in Primary Care and Health Management I Practicum: Adults with Acute and Episodic Conditions in Primary Care	6
NSG 7032 and NSG 7032L	Health Management II: Behavioral and Mental Health Conditions in Primary Care and Health Management II Practicum: Behavioral and Mental Health Conditions in Primary Care	6
NSG 7033 and NSG 7033L	Health Management III: Adults with Chronic and Complex Conditions in Primary Care and Health Management III Practicum: Adults with Chronic and Complex Conditions in Primary Care	6
NSG 7034 and NSG 7034L	Health Management IV: Pediatric and Adolescent in Primary Care and Health Management IV Practicum: Pediatric and Adolescent in Primary Care	6
NSG 7035 and NSG 7035L	Health Management V: Clinical Immersion and Health Management V Practicum: Clinical Immersion	4
NSG 7036	Entry to the Advanced Practice Role	1
Total Units		42

¹ 0-9 units, *per gap analysis*.

Total Post-Graduate CNS Certificate Units: 26-38

**Minimum Required Clinical Hours for Adult-Gerontology CNS and
Pediatric CNS Tracks: 500**

**Minimum Required Clinical Hours for Adult-Gerontology CNS with
Women's Health Specialty Track: 580**

Total Post-Graduate FNP Certificate Units: 33-42 Minimum

Minimum Required Clinical Hours for FNP Track: 750