

# NURSING, CERTIFICATES

## Program Description

This post-master's certificate option is available for nurses who hold a Master of Science in Nursing degree. A gap analysis is done to determine which courses would be needed to complete the certificate. Post-Master certificates are available for Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Family Primary Care Nurse Practitioner.

### Post-Master's Certificate Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

This track prepares students to provide direct care and to take leadership in the primary care of young adults, adults and older adults. Primary care sites include outpatient clinics, work sites, college health services, emergency rooms, home health and other community-based settings. Upon completion of this track, students are eligible for licensure in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and for national certification as an Adult Gerontology Primary Care Practitioner.

### Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate

The Family Nurse Practitioner online program is designed to prepare nurses with the skills needed to deliver cutting-edge, community-based primary health care to individuals and families across the lifespan. Upon completion of this track, students are eligible for licensure in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and for national certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner.

### Post-Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate

The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program prepares nurse practitioner students to provide a full range of mental health services to clients across the life span. This specialty emphasizes prevention, diagnosis, and management of both acute episodic and chronic mental illnesses. Although not setting specific, clinical rotations will primarily occur in in-patient, outpatient, and community residential settings. Upon completion of this track, students are eligible for licensure in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and for national certification as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

### Post-Master's Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialists Certificate

**At this time, La Salle University is not accepting or enrolling new students into this program. Please complete this form (<https://www.lasalle.edu/nursing-msn/post-masters-certificate-programs/adult-gerontology-clinical-nurse-specialist/expression-of-interest-form/>) as an expression of interest and to receive information about this program from La Salle University at a later date.**

**This post-master's certificate option is available for nurses who hold a Master of Science in Nursing degree.**

The track for a clinical nurse specialist prepares a professional for overseeing nursing care for a group of well or ill clients in hospitals, homes, and primary care settings, acting as a program director in some positions. Two major areas of responsibility include direct and indirect patient care. This nurse moves in and out of direct care situations when expert skill and knowledge are required. The clinical nurse specialist is accountable to patients, advocates for them, and evaluates the

quality of nursing services. In indirect care, this nurse's responsibility is primarily to a nursing staff, serving as a consultant, bringing expert clinical knowledge to health care providers on a system-wide basis, and applying current research findings to patient care. This nurse's expertise contributes greatly to the plan of care for patients.

## Mission

Consistent with Lasallian values, the Mission of the Nursing Program is to provide scientifically based nursing curricula to educate clinically competent, caring, nursing professionals with a commitment to excellence in practice, service, life-long learning, and scholarship.

## Program Goals

- Prepare students to provide nursing services in health care agencies and communities with an emphasis on vulnerable populations
- Prepare students to provide professional nursing services in health care agencies and communities with an emphasis on vulnerable populations
- Facilitate students' professional development in the knowledge, skills, and values to advocate for a healthy society
- Foster student and faculty engagement in inter-professional and collaborative health care services, programs, and research
- Educate students to strengthen the nursing profession and to contribute to the health of society through service and practice
- Develop a community of life-long learners among students, faculty, alumni, and community partners.

## Program Specific Information

The BSN, MSN, DNP, and APRN Post-master's Certificate programs at La Salle University are accredited by the:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org/>)  
655 K Street NW, Suite 750  
Washington DC 20001  
202-887-6791

Please refer to the handbook which can be found at <https://www.lasalle.edu/nursing-msn/wp-content/uploads/sites/135/2018/08/grad-nursing-rnbsn-handbook-2018.pdf>

## Degree or Certificate Earned

Certificate

## Required for Program Completion

- Courses
  - dependent upon gap analysis
- Credits
  - dependent upon gap analysis
- GPA
  - 3.0

## Student Learning Outcomes

- Integrate advanced theoretical, research-based, scientific, and clinical knowledge into clinical practice to provide nursing care to diverse clients. (Essential 1)

- Practice independently and collaboratively with an inter-professional team while delivering direct and indirect care services in various types of health care systems. (Essential 2, 7, 9, 10)
- Use research findings from nursing and other disciplines as a basis for clinical decision-making to improve practice and to formulate health policy. (Essential 4, 6)
- Use ethical decision-making to promote the well-being of individuals, families, health care professionals in local, national, and international communities. (Essential 6)
- Utilize evidence-based practice recommendations and professional standards of care to promote health, prevent disease and improve the health status of individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations. (Essential 4, 8)
- Demonstrate communication skills, including health information management to enhance the quality of care provided at individual and aggregate levels. (Essential 5)
- Demonstrate safe, effective assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation skills in caring for individuals and groups while working in inter-professional collaborative relationships. (Essential 3, 4, 7, 9)
- Provide culturally competent care to all persons regardless of race, sex, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, culture, health care beliefs, and religion. (Essential 7, 8)
- Function as a leader and change agent in nursing and in health care delivery systems particularly to insure quality care for vulnerable and underserved populations. (Essential 7, 8)
- Demonstrate responsibility and accountability for ongoing professional development (Essential 9)

## Academic Requirements

Dependent upon certificate.

## Course Sequence

### Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner

This track requires a total of 512 clinical hours. The clinical experiences are in NUR 665 Field Study: Adult-Gerontology Primary Care I and NUR 666 Field Study in Primary Care of Adults II.

| Code   | Title  | Credits   |
|--|--|-----------|
| <b>Advanced Core Courses</b>   |  |           |
| NUR 615  | Family System Concepts for Primary Care                  | 3         |
| NUR 616  | Advanced Health Assessment                               | 3         |
| NUR 617  | Advanced Pharmacology                                    | 3         |
| NUR 618  | Advanced Pathophysiology                                 | 3         |
| <b>Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Track Courses</b> |  |           |
| NUR 660  | Adult-Gerontology Primary Care I                         | 3         |
| NUR 661  | Adult-Gerontology Primary Care II                        | 3         |
| NUR 665  | Field Study: Adult-Gerontology Primary Care I (256 hrs.) | 4         |
| NUR 666  | Field Study in Primary Care of Adults II (256 hrs.)      | 4         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>   |  | <b>26</b> |

### Family Nurse Practitioner

For the Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner certificate, the nursing curriculum is comprised of 16 courses (45 credits), including 9 credits of core courses, 12 credits of advanced core courses, 10 credits of concentration/theory courses, 11 credits of field study/clinical

courses, and 3 credits for one elective. 692 clinical hours are associated with the field study/clinical courses.

| Code                 | Title  | Credits   |
|----------------------|--|-----------|
| NUR 615              | Family System Concepts for Primary Care                            | 3         |
| NUR 618              | Advanced Pathophysiology   | 3         |
| NUR 617              | Advanced Pharmacology  | 3         |
| NUR 616              | Advanced Health Assessment   | 3         |
| NUR 660              | Adult-Gerontology Primary Care I                                   | 3         |
| NUR 665              | Field Study: Adult-Gerontology Primary Care I                      | 4         |
| NUR 661              | Adult-Gerontology Primary Care II                                  | 3         |
| NUR 667              | Field Study: Adult Gerontology Primary Care II for the FNP Student | 2         |
| NUR 663              | Primary Care of Women  | 2         |
| NUR 668              | Field Study in Primary Care of Women                               | 2         |
| NUR 664              | Primary Care of Children   | 2         |
| NUR 669              | FNP Field Study II   | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b> |  | <b>33</b> |

### Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

| Code  | Title  | Credits   |
|---|--|-----------|
| <b>Advanced Core Courses</b>                                      |  |           |
| NUR 615   | Family System Concepts for Primary Care                          | 3         |
| NUR 616   | Advanced Health Assessment                                       | 3         |
| NUR 617   | Advanced Pharmacology  | 3         |
| NUR 618   | Advanced Pathophysiology   | 3         |
| NUR 622   | Psychopharmacology   | 3         |
| <b>Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Track Courses</b> |  |           |
| NUR 627   | Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role 1 Course       | 3         |
| NUR 657   | Field Study: Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role 1 | 4         |
| NUR 628   | Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role 2 Course       | 3         |
| NUR 658   | Field Study: Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role 2 | 4         |
| NUR 629   | Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role 3 Course       | 2         |
| NUR 659   | Field Study: Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role 3 | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>  |  | <b>34</b> |

## Course Descriptions

All course descriptions may be found in the main menu under Graduate > Courses: A-Z (<https://catalog.lasalle.edu/graduate/courses-az/>).

## Faculty

Patricia Dillon, Ph.D., RN  
Professor and Chair Graduate Programs

Lisa Alberts, DNP, AGNP-BC, PMHNP-BC

Kathleen Czekanski, Ph.D., RN, CNE  
Professor Emerita

Christopher Giberson, Ph.D., MBA, CRNA

Maureen Donohue-Smith, Ph. D., PMHNP -BC

Frances Kinder, Ph. D., RN, CPNP

Mary T Palovcak, DNP RN CRNP FNP-BC

Family Nurse Practitioner Coordinator

Rachel Spoon, DNP, CRNP, AGPCNP-BC, CCTM

Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Coordinator

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## **Program Contact Information**

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