

# PhD Course Descriptions

## **PHDN 601 Logics of Inquiry (3)**

Explores epistemological and ontological foundations of science and how they influence the development of the science of nursing. Examines specific philosophical traditions such as empiricism, phenomenology, critical, and feminist theory for their relevance to nursing.

## **PHDN 602 Theory Development in Nursing (3)**

Focuses on theory building: the nature of theory formation; critical analysis and synthesis of theoretical frameworks. Prerequisite: One theory course.

## **PHDN 607 Applied Statistics and Quantitative Research Methods (3)**

Examines a variety of quantitative research designs and data collection and statistical analysis procedures appropriate to each. Students interpret statistical computer output.

## **PHDN 640 Bioethical Issues in Nursing (3)**

Focuses on the process of ethical inquiry and its relevance for contemporary nursing practice, education, and research. Ethical theories and frameworks are explored as the basis for professional decision-making and public policy determination and include justice, caring, consideration of the common good, and feminist points of view. Contemporary bioethical issues are examined using case analysis and narrative approaches.

## **PHDN 641 Social, Historical, and Philosophical Bases of Nursing (3)**

Explores the historical development of professional nursing emphasizing social, cultural, and philosophical phenomena influencing caregiving roles. Analyzes historical perspectives of contemporary health care issues and projection of future courses of action.

## **PHDN 648 Health Policy Analysis (3)**

Examines the process of forming health policy from the inception of a need through analysis. Emphasizes policy analysis and the use of models in an attempt to clarify the process. Addresses nursing's participation in the policy-making process and current legislation influencing the health habits of Americans.

## **PHDN 660 Methods in Historical Investigation (3)**

Addresses the nature of history: its use and varieties of literature; facts in history; sources; types of evidence; collecting evidence; external and internal criticism; inference; analysis; synthesis and communication. Prerequisites: PHDN 601, 602.

**PHDN 661 Health and Illness Among Culturally Diverse Populations (3)**

Explores a wide range of theoretical perspectives related to health and illness. Emphasizes the health and illness experiences of various ethnic, stigmatized, and disenfranchised populations. Students analyze how sociocultural factors shape health behaviors and practices among these groups, as well as research strategies for the study of health and illness among diverse aggregates.

**PHDN 662 Feminist Perspectives on the Caring Professions (3)**

Explores the significant shift in Western culture away from honoring women as healers to overvaluing the masculine principle and scientific knowledge as viewed from a historical perspective. Introduces new feminist scholarship recognizing the advances of science and calling for a revaluing of the feminine, intuition, and caring as crucial aspects of any caring profession. Students are encouraged to explore the role of caring in their own professions.

**PHDN 663 Perspectives on Global Health (3)**

Analysis of a variety of theoretical perspectives related to the understanding of global health. This course provides an opportunity to examine health care concerns from a global perspective while examining issues relevant to specific countries or regions.

**PHDN 664 Dissertation Seminar (3)**

Presentation of student's individual research proposals for group discussion and critique. Prerequisite: Doctoral Candidacy Status.

**PHDN 688 Palliative Care Across the Life Span (3)**

An in-depth exploration of the roles of the Nurse Researcher and Advanced Practice Nurse in the palliative care setting. Theories of palliative care will be explored as a basis for praxis, the conduct of research, and public policy determination. Symptom management, patient-family communication and cultural perspectives of chronic illness are major course themes. Analysis and critique of contemporary research on palliative care is integrated throughout the course.

**PHDN 670 Quantitative Designs in Research (3)**

Critical analysis of scientific inquiry using advanced nonexperimental (descriptive and correlational) and experimental (quasi- and true experimental) quantitative research designs. Emphasizes application of advanced statistical analyses related to specific research designs. Prerequisites: PHDN 601, 602, 607/comparable course, or consent of instructor.

**PHDN 672 Psychometric Theory and Measurement (3)**

Provides an overview of concepts, theories, measurement theories, and instruments. Includes critical analysis of relationships between concepts, theories and measurements as well as critical examination of existing instruments based on principles of instrument construction and evaluation. Emphasis is also placed on evaluating instruments in terms of cultural bias, sensitivity and ethical issues. Prerequisites PHDN 601, 602.

**PHDN 673 Ethnographic and Field Research Design (3)**

Provides a background in qualitative research, with an emphasis on ethnographic and field research methods and techniques of data collection and analysis. The graduate seminar will help students to develop and acquire skills in observation, description, interviewing, analysis and presentation.

**PHDN 674 Advanced Psychometric Measurement (3)**

Study and application of advanced measurement theory and psychometric techniques in the testing of measures creatively designed by the students. The multi-trait multi-method approach to construct validity and multi-variate techniques of factor analysis are used. Introduces the measurement model of the linear structural relations program where appropriate. Prerequisite: PHDN 672.

**PHDN 676 Advanced Qualitative Research Methods (3)**

Provides an opportunity for students to build on prior research experiences and further develop their expertise in data analysis. Emphasizes dimensional analysis and grounded theory procedures, epistemological assumptions, and logic. Addresses the philosophical traditions of grounded theory and dimensional analysis, specifically pragmatism and symbolic interactionism. Prerequisite: PHDN 673 or comparable course.

**PHDN 677 Advanced Quantitative Designs in Research (3)**

Critical analysis, synthesis, and application of advanced quantitative research designs. Areas of emphasis include: testing the relationship between multiple independent variables and a single dependent variable, between multiple independent and multiple dependent variables; grouping variables or individuals; and analysis of linear structural relations. Prerequisite: PHDN 670 or comparable course.

**PHDN 683 Knowledge Dissemination (3)**

Analysis and evaluation of strategies that facilitate knowledge dissemination in academic settings in nursing. Emphasis is on synthesis of literature related to the unique learning needs of the nurse scholar.

**PHDN 684 Seminar in Grant Writing (3)**

Addresses all aspects of grant writing, including funding sources, proposal writing and management of funded projects.

**PHDN 685 Writing for Publication (3)**

Focuses on scholarly writing in professional nursing, Emphasizes manuscript development for submission for publication Address multiple venues and publication

formats. Emphasizes publication of research findings as well as ethical and legal issues in publications.

**PHDN 686 Perspectives in Program Evaluation (3)**

Prepares students to design and conduct evaluation of health, education, or other service programs. Focuses on principles of program evaluation and models applicable to comprehensive systematic evaluations of complex delivery programs. Students design and implement an evaluation of a specific program. Prerequisites: PHDN 670, 673.

**PHDN 693 Residency (3)**

Provides intensive experience in a selected area of career development. Prerequisite: Doctoral Candidacy Status.

**PHDN 694 Special Topics in Nursing Research (1-3)**

**Repeatable for credit**

**PHDN 695 Dissertation (1-9)**

Development and implementation of original research. Candidate must register for at least 3 units per semester until 9 units have been completed. After the completion of 9 units of dissertation, candidates must continue to register for 1 unit each semester to maintain candidacy until the completed dissertation is submitted. Prerequisite: PHDN 664 and Doctoral Candidacy Status. (Repeatable for credit)

**PHDN 697 Seminar in Vulnerable Populations/Health Disparities Research (3)**

Analyzes the state of the science concerning health –related issues and health disparities among vulnerable populations. Theoretical underpinnings, ethical considerations, research methods, instrumentation, findings and implications for further research will be explored.