

The post-APRN certification program in adult-gerontology acute care is available for currently licensed and certified family, adult, or gerontology primary care nurse practitioners. Admission preference is given to applicants with at least one year of experience in direct patient care in an advanced practice role in an approved acute care setting. Acute care settings include inpatient (hospital) or observation units, critical care units, emergency departments, and some specialty outpatient clinics that manage chronically complex patients.

This is a 16-21 credit hour program, consisting of three didactic and one variable credit clinical course. All didactic courses are offered via asynchronous, web-based modalities. Two didactic courses focus on implementation of disciplined reasoning in the application of therapeutics and evidence-based acute care advanced nursing practice in the adult and geriatric population. An additional didactic course is designed to reinforce the difference in role delineation between primary care and acute care certified nurse practitioners and explore common practice issues specific to the acute care certified nurse practitioner.

National certification requires at least 500 clock hours of direct patient care in the advanced role. However, some students may have accrued appropriate hours prior to admission. Therefore, the program will be personalized via gap analyses to determine the number of clinical practicum hours required of each student. Any hours accrued prior to admission must have been academically supervised and completed in an appropriate acute care setting (as detailed above). The number of practicum hours required to complete this program are equal to 5 to 10 academic credits (250 to 500 clock hours), based upon the gap analysis.

Students will have the option to complete practicum hours over one, two, or three semesters. Students will be responsible for committing to and scheduling clinical hours each semester with guidance from the track coordinator, taking into consideration his or her home and work commitments.

	Fall		Spring		Summer	
<b>Year 1</b>	NSG 755 Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Role Development	1	NSG 759 Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II	5	NSG 757 Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum*	1-10
	NSG 758 Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I	5	NSG 757 Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum*	0-10		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5-15</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1-10</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	NSG 757 Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum*	0-5				
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0-5</b>	<b>Total program credits: 16-21</b>			

\*The program will be personalized via gap analyses to determine the number of clinical practicum hours required of each student. Students will have the option to complete practicum hours over one, two or three semesters, but must have completed at least 250 hours by the end of the third (summer) term. Throughout the program, students will be required to complete a minimum of 16 credit hours, of which five will be practicum credits (250 clinical hours).

## Course Descriptions

**NSG 755:** Acute Care Professional Role Development: 1 credit (Didactic, Fall only). This course is designed to explore, analyze, and compare and contrast the role of the previously certified primary care advance practice registered nurse who seeks to gain additional knowledge and skills related to the care of adult gerontology acutely ill patients.

**NSG 757:** Acute Care Practicum: 1 to 10 credits (Clinical). Variable and repeatable. Prerequisites – NSG 755, NSG 758, and NSG 759. NSG 759 may be taken concurrently. This supervised practicum is designed to facilitate the student’s competency in the delivery of acute care to adult and geriatric patients.

**NSG 758:** Acute Care 1: 5 credits (Didactic, Fall only). Prerequisite or concurrent– NSG 755. This course is designed for the previously certified primary care advance practice registered nurse who seeks to gain additional knowledge and skills related to the care of adult gerontology acutely ill patients.

**NSG 759:** Acute Care 2: 5 credits (Didactic, Spring only). Prerequisites – NSG 755, NSG 758. This course builds upon the knowledge and concepts presented in Acute Care 1. It is designed for the previously certified primary care advance practice registered nurse who seeks to gain additional knowledge and skills related to the care of adult gerontology acutely ill patients.