



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

Substantive Program Modification Form

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
CURRENT PROGRAM DEGREE:	DNP
CURRENT PROGRAM MAJOR/MINOR:	Nursing
CURRENT SPECIALIZATION:	Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialization
CIP CODE:	51.3801 – Major CIP 51.3810 – Specialization CIP
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Nursing
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	SNUR
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE:	College of Nursing
BANNER COLLEGE CODE:	3N

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Dennis D. Hedge	12/17/2024
Vice President of Academic Affairs or President of the University	Date

1. This modification addresses a change in:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program name | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Admission Requirements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification requiring Board of Regents approval
<i>Must have prior approval from Executive Director or designee</i> | |

2. Effective date of change: 2025-2026 Academic Year

3. Program Degree Level:

Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

4. Category:

Certificate Specialization Minor Major

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur:

- On the effective date for all students
- On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)
- Proposed new name:

6. Is the program being modified associated with a current articulation agreement?

Yes No

a. If yes, will the articulation agreement need to be updated with the partner institution following the approve of the program change? Please explain:

7. Primary Aspects of the Modification:

<i>Existing Curriculum</i>				<i>Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)</i>			
Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
HSC	631	Biostatistics I	3	HSC	631	Biostatistics I	3
NURS	732	Psychopharmacology and Neurobiology Across the Lifespan	2	NURS	732	Psychopharmacology and Neurobiology Across the Lifespan	2
NURS	733	Psychopathological Disorders Across the Lifespan	3	NURS	733	Psychopathological Disorders Across the Lifespan	2
NURS	734	Theories and Interventions for Individuals and Groups	2	NURS	734	Theories and Interventions for Individuals and Groups	2
				NURS	734L	Theories and Interventions for Individuals and Groups Practicum	1
NURS	735	Advanced Psychiatric Assessment & Differential Diagnosis Across the Lifespan	2	NURS	735	Advanced Psychiatric Assessment & Differential Diagnosis Across the Lifespan	2
NURS	750	Transformational Leadership in Nursing	3	NURS	750	Transformational Leadership in Nursing	3
NURS	780	Clinical Genetics and Genomics: Advanced Concepts	1	NURS	780	Clinical Genetics and Genomics: Advanced Concepts	1
NURS	781	Clinical Epidemiology: Advanced Concepts	1	NURS	781	Clinical Epidemiology: Advanced Concepts	1
				NURS	783	Healthcare System Management and Evaluation	3
				NURS	789	DNP Capstone I	1
NURS	835	Ethical Issues Influencing Practice and Research in Health	2	NURS	835	Ethical Issues Influencing Practice and Research in Health	2
				NURS	849	PMHNP Integration Synthesis	1
				NURS	849L	PMHNP Integration Synthesis Practicum	1
NURS	850	Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations for Evidence-Based Care	3	NURS	850	Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations for Evidence-Based Care	3
NURS	855	Translational Research in Health Care	3	NURS	855	Translational Research in Health Care	3
NURS	860	Health Operations and Financial Management for Nurse Leaders	3	NURS	860	Health Operations and Financial Management for Nurse Leaders	3
NURS	880	DNP Project	8	NURS	880	DNP Project	6
				NURS	889	DNP Capstone II	1
PHA	738	Health Informatics	1	PHA	738	Health Informatics	1
		BSN to DNP Requirements				BSN to DNP Requirements	
NURS	615	Foundations of Advanced Nursing	3	NURS	615	Foundations of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS	623	Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan - Application to Advanced Practice Nursing	4	NURS	623	Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan - Application to Advanced Practice Nursing	4
NURS	631	Advanced Assessment Across the Lifespan	3	NURS	631	Advanced Assessment Across the Lifespan	3
NURS	631L	Advanced Assessment Across the Lifespan Clinical Laboratory	1	NURS	631L	Advanced Assessment Across the Lifespan Clinical Laboratory	1
NURS	670	Health Policy, Legislation, Economics and Ethics	3	NURS	670	Health Policy, Legislation, Economics and Ethics	3
NURS	736	Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan I	4	NURS	736	Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan I	5
NURS	737	Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan II	5	NURS	737	Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan II	5
				NURS	749	PMHNP Integration Practice Initiation	5
NURS	760	Advance Concepts in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3	NURS	760	Advance Concepts in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3
				NURS	772	Healthcare Technology & Informatics	3

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)

Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
NURS	875	DNP Intensive	8	NURS	875	DNP Intensive	8
PHA	645	Pharmacotherapeutics Across the Lifespan: Application to Advanced Practice	4	PHA	645	Pharmacotherapeutics Across the Lifespan: Application to Advanced Practice	4
Post Master's to DNP Requirements				Post Master's to DNP Requirements			
NURS	736	Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan I	4	NURS	736	Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan I	1-5**
NURS	737	Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan II	5	NURS	737	Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan II	1-5**
				NURS	749	PMHNP Integration: Practice Initiation	1-5**
NURS	875	DNP Intensive	3	NURS	875	DNP Intensive	3
Total number of hours required for degree BSN to DNP			75	Total number of hours required for degree BSN to DNP			78
Post Master's to DNP			49	Post Master's to DNP			42-54

***Practicum credits taken to reach 1000 clinical hours.*

Additional Admission Requirements

Current:

GRE: Not required

TOEFL: Score of 81 Internet-based

TOEFL Essentials: 8.5

IELTS: 6.5 total band

Duolingo: 110

Additional Admissions Requirements for Post Master's to Doctor of Nursing Practice

In addition to meeting the Graduate School admission requirements, applicants for graduate study for the Post Master's to Doctor of Nursing Practice - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialization must have:

- Current licensure as a Registered Nurse in the United States or its' territories prior to enrollment in first graduate nursing course.
- 1500 hours of documented nursing practice experience prior to taking NURS 631/631L.
- Completed and verified application to the Graduate Nursing program via NursingCAS website.
- Interview assessment reviewed by graduate faculty.
- Completed Compliance requirements: Clear Background check, clear FBI rolled fingerprint, clear drug screen, Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers, ACLS certification for FNP specialization, professional liability insurance, influenza vaccine, and TB test.

For applicants who completed their higher education within the United States:

- Bachelor's degree in nursing from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.
- Master's degree in nursing (from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

For applicants who completed their higher education outside the United States:

- A degree deemed equivalent (by the World Education Service) to a Bachelor's degree in nursing (within the United States Education System) with a minimum cumulative preferred

GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

- A degree deemed equivalent (by the World Education Service) to a Master's degree in nursing (within the United States Education System) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

Additional Admission Requirements for Bachelor's to Doctor of Nursing Practice

In addition to meeting the Graduate School admission requirements, applicants for graduate study for the Bachelor's to Doctor of Nursing Practice - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialization must have:

- Current licensure as a Registered Nurse in the United States or its' territories prior to enrollment in first graduate nursing course.
- 1500 hours of documented nursing practice experience prior to taking NURS 631/631L.
- Completed and verified application to the Graduate Nursing program via NursingCAS website.
- Interview assessment reviewed by graduate faculty.
- Completed Compliance requirements: Clear Background check, clear FBI rolled fingerprint, clear drug screen, Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers, ACLS certification for FNP specialization, professional liability insurance, influenza vaccine, and TB test.

For applicants who completed their higher education within the United States:

- Bachelor's degree in nursing from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

For applicants who completed their higher education outside the United States:

- A degree deemed equivalent (by the World Education Service) to a Bachelor's degree in nursing (within the United States Education System) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

Proposed:

GRE: Not required

TOEFL: Score of 81 Internet-based

TOEFL Essentials: 8.5

IELTS: 6.5 total band

Duolingo: 110

Additional Admissions Requirements for Post Master's to Doctor of Nursing Practice

In addition to meeting the Graduate School admission requirements, applicants for graduate study for the Post Master's to Doctor of Nursing Practice - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialization must have:

- Current, **unencumbered** licensure as a Registered Nurse in the United States or its' territories prior to enrollment in first graduate nursing course.
- **Students who have not previously completed Advanced Physical Assessment (Lifespan), Advanced Pathophysiology (Lifespan), Advanced Pharmacology / Pharmacotherapeutics (Lifespan) or equivalent coursework will be required to complete those courses as part of this program. All previous coursework will need to be evaluated for equivalency and approved by the Associate Dean for Graduate Nursing.**
- 1500 hours of documented nursing practice experience prior to taking **Advanced Physical Assessment (Lifespan).**
- Completed and verified application to the Graduate Nursing program via NursingCAS website.
- Interview assessment reviewed by graduate faculty.
- Completed Compliance requirements: Clear Background check, clear FBI rolled fingerprint,

clear drug screen, Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers, ACLS certification for FNP specialization, professional liability insurance, influenza vaccine, and TB test.

For applicants who completed their higher education within the United States:

- Bachelor's degree in nursing from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.
- Master's degree in nursing (from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

For applicants who completed their higher education outside the United States:

- A degree deemed equivalent (by the World Education Service) to a Bachelor's degree in nursing (within the United States Education System) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.
- A degree deemed equivalent (by the World Education Service) to a Master's degree in nursing (within the United States Education System) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

Additional Admission Requirements for Bachelor's to Doctor of Nursing Practice

In addition to meeting the Graduate School admission requirements, applicants for graduate study for the Bachelor's to Doctor of Nursing Practice - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialization must have:

- Current, **unencumbered** licensure as a Registered Nurse in the United States or its' territories prior to enrollment in first graduate nursing course.
- 1500 hours of documented nursing practice experience prior to taking **Advanced Physical Assessment (Lifespan)**.
- Completed and verified application to the Graduate Nursing program via NursingCAS website.
- Interview assessment reviewed by graduate faculty.
- Completed Compliance requirements: Clear Background check, clear FBI rolled fingerprint, clear drug screen, Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers, ACLS certification for FNP specialization, professional liability insurance, influenza vaccine, and TB test.

For applicants who completed their higher education within the United States:

- Bachelor's degree in nursing from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

For applicants who completed their higher education outside the United States:

- A degree deemed equivalent (by the World Education Service) to a Bachelor's degree in nursing (within the United States Education System) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

8. Explanation of the Change:

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing recently updated the standards for nursing education. These standards were adopted by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), which accredits SDSU College of Nursing programs, including the DNP. The DNP program was updated to reflect the new accreditation standards and requirements, including meeting the requirements for clinical hours. The number of clinical hours and, therefore, credit hours were increased to meet accreditation requirements. The College of Nursing identified the following changes:

- NURS 733 Psychopathological Disorders Across the Lifespan reduced from 3 to 2 credits. The content of the course was adjusted due to certification requirements.
- NURS 734 was modified to separate out NURS 734 for didactic content and NURS 734L for the practicum experience. This change will provide clarity for students when registering and workload allocation.
- NURS 736 Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Across the Lifespan I increased from 4 to 5 credits to accommodate the increased number of clinical hours required for accreditation.
- PHA 738 Health Informatics, NURS 780 Clinical Genetics and Genomics: Advanced Concepts, NURS 781 Clinical Epidemiology: Advanced Concepts, and NURS 875 DNP Intensive were removed from the specialization. The content that is necessary for accreditation standards will be moved to other new courses/existing courses.
- NURS 772 Healthcare Technology & Informatics and NURS 783 Healthcare System Management and Evaluation were added to program requirements. The new courses include content required for new accreditation standards previously not covered in the plan of study.
- NURS 749 PMHNP Integration Practice Initiation and NURS 849-849L PMHNP Integration Synthesis and Practicum were added to meet accreditation standards specific to Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner content.
- NURS 880 DNP Project reduced from 8 to 6 credits to accommodate the addition of NURS 789 DNP Capstone I and NURS 889 Capstone II. The two new courses will include didactic content necessary for DNP project. This separation will allow for clarity in the student registration process and workload assignment.
- The admission criteria were revised to include “unencumbered” and to add a statement about the “3Ps”. Students must have an active and also unencumbered license; otherwise, additional licensure could be compromised. The 3Ps [Advanced Physical Assessment (Lifespan), Advanced Pathophysiology (Lifespan), Advanced Pharmacology / Pharmacotherapeutics (Lifespan)] are required for accreditation/national standards.
- Changed wording from course number to course title/content for clarity.