



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

**Substantive Program Modification Form**

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	<b>SDSU</b>
<b>CURRENT PROGRAM DEGREE:</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
<b>CURRENT PROGRAM MAJOR/MINOR:</b>	<b>Post-Graduate Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate</b>
<b>CURRENT SPECIALIZATION:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>CIP CODE:</b>	<b>51.3810</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>Nursing</b>
<b>BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:</b>	<b>SNUR</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY COLLEGE:</b>	<b>College of Nursing</b>
<b>BANNER COLLEGE CODE:</b>	<b>3N</b>

**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

Vice President of Academic Affairs or  
President of the University

12/17/2024

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 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        |  |

*Must have prior approval from Executive Director or designee*

**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.
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	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**
Total number of hours required for degree			18	Total number of hours required for degree			19

*\*\*Practicum credits taken to reach 600 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

In addition to meeting basic requirements for admission to the Graduate School, applicants for graduate study in nursing must have:

- Current licensure as a Registered Nurse (and if applicable, APRN and licensure) 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 graduate level courses in Advanced Physical Assessment (Lifespan), Advanced Pathophysiology (Lifespan), Advanced Pharmacology / Pharmacotherapeutics (Lifespan) with a course grade of 3.0 within the last 5 years.
- 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

*Proposed:*

GRE: Not required

TOEFL: Score of 81 Internet-based

TOEFL Essentials: 8.5

IELTS: 6.5 total band

Duolingo: 110

In addition to meeting basic requirements for admission to the Graduate School, applicants for graduate study in nursing must have:

- Current, **unencumbered** licensure as a Registered Nurse (and if applicable, APRN and licensure) 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 graduate level courses in Advanced Physical Assessment (Lifespan), Advanced Pathophysiology (Lifespan), Advanced Pharmacology / Pharmacotherapeutics (Lifespan) with a course grade of 3.0. ~~within the last 5 years.~~
- 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.

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## **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 Post-Graduate Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate 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.
- The admission criteria were revised to include “unencumbered” and to remove the five year requirement for the 3Ps. Students must have an active and also unencumbered license; otherwise, additional licensure could be compromised.
- Changed wording from course number to course title/content for clarity.