

ELM-MSN: Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialty (PMHNP)

This specialty master's program prepares students for roles as psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners for clients with psychiatric and mental health problems across the lifespan. Students learn to work respectfully and collaboratively with clients/consumers who are experiencing severe or chronic mental illnesses to determine biopsychosocial healthcare needs within a complex and changing environment. Theory and clinical coursework focuses on assessment; differential diagnosis and disease management; intervention planning; individual, family, and group psychotherapy; health promotion; and disease prevention. Mental-health-related policy, and the application of research and evidence-based practice, informs the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner.

The inherent equality and worthiness of those who are vulnerable and disenfranchised; the role of spirituality; the value of diversity; and the ability to engender hope, empowerment, self-responsibility, and a meaningful role in life are threaded throughout the program. Graduates are eligible to apply to the California Board of Registered Nursing for certification as a nurse practitioner, and may apply for national PMHNP certification through examination.

Contact the School of Nursing (<http://www.apu.edu/nursing>) for specific program availability and locations. Prelicensure coursework (<http://catalog.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/nursing/entry-level-masters-program/second-degree-program-entry-level-master-science-nursing-elm>) must be completed prior to beginning advanced practice nursing coursework.

Code	Title	Units
Academic Core Courses		10
GNRS 506	Spiritual Concept Analysis in Health Care	3
GNRS Electives		7
Academic and Advanced Practice Core Courses		14
GNRS 510	Family Theory in Health Care	2
GNRS 512	Advanced Health Assessment and Health Promotion ¹	4 (3/1)
GNRS 513	Advanced Nursing Practice Role	2
GNRS 515	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
GNRS 594	Pharmacology in Advanced Practice Nursing	3
Advanced Practice Specialty Courses		29
GNRS 533	Psychiatric Theories across the Life Span	2
GNRS 534	Integrated Psychiatric and Health Assessment across the Lifespan	2
GNRS 535	Psychiatric Interventions and Health Promotion across the Life Span	6 (3/3)
GNRS 536	Psychiatric Mental Health Care with Adults and Older Adults	6 (3/3)
GNRS 537	Psychiatric Mental Health Care with Children and Adolescents	6 (3/3)
GNRS 538	Psychiatric Mental Health Care with Selected Populations	5 (2/3)
GNRS 539	Psychopharmacology	2
Concluding Courses		1-3
GNRS 597	Comprehensive Examination Directed Study	1
- or -		
GNRS 598 & GNRS 514	Thesis and Research Proposal Writing	3
Total Units		54-56

¹ Units shown in parentheses are theory units/clinical units.