

Adult-Gerontology or Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

The Master of Science in Nursing with Adult-Gerontology or Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) program (<https://www.apu.edu/nursing/programs/msn-cns/>) allows students to concentrate on one of these two clinical areas of content and practice. Nurses with advanced practice preparation may work in acute, primary, or long-term care settings. Students learn the process of developing and sustaining evidence-based practice in illness management, advancing the practice of other nurses and nursing personnel, and developing organizational or systems modifications to support and improve nursing practice. The traditional CNS roles of expert clinical practice, consultation, clinical leadership, research, and education are shaped toward producing desirable patient outcomes as the CNS works in several spheres of influence. Graduates are eligible to apply to the state of California for certification as clinical nurse specialists, and may apply for national certification through examination by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) (<https://www.nursingworld.org/ancc/>).

Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Academic Core Courses		13
GNRS 504	Bioethics and Healthcare Policy	3
GNRS 506	Spiritual Concept Analysis in Health Care	3
GNRS 508A	Research and Theory in Advanced Practice Nursing	4
GNRS 613	Graduate Statistics	3
Academic and Advanced Practice Core Courses		12
GNRS 513	Advanced Nursing Practice Role	2
GNRS 610	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
GNRS 611	Advanced Pharmacology	3
GNRS 612	Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning ¹	4 (3/1)
Advanced Practice Specialty Courses		22
GNRS 520	Theory and Practice of the Clinical Nurse Specialist in Nursing Care of Adult-Gerontology Patients	6 (2/4)
GNRS 521	Clinical Specialization in the Care of Adult-Gerontology Patients	6 (2/4)
GNRS 543	Transitions Across the Care Continuum	6 (2/4)
GNRS 548	Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	2
GNRS 580	Gerontology	2
Concluding Courses		1-3
GNRS 597	Comprehensive Examination Directed Study	1
- or -		
GNRS 598	Thesis	1
- and -		
GNRS 514	Research Proposal Writing	2
Total Units		48-50

¹ Units in parentheses are classroom/clinical units.

Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Academic Core Courses		13
GNRS 504	Bioethics and Healthcare Policy	3
GNRS 506	Spiritual Concept Analysis in Health Care	3
GNRS 508A	Research and Theory in Advanced Practice Nursing	4
GNRS 613	Graduate Statistics	3
Academic and Advanced Practice Core Courses		12
GNRS 511	Advanced Pediatric Health Assessment and Health Promotion ¹	4 (3/1)
or GNRS 612	Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning	

GNRS 513	Advanced Nursing Practice Role	2
GNRS 610	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
GNRS 611	Advanced Pharmacology	3
Advanced Practice Specialty Courses		20
GNRS 530	Theory and Practice of the Clinical Nurse Specialist in the Care of the Pediatric Patient	6 (2/4)
GNRS 531	Clinical Specialization in the Care of the Pediatric Patient	6 (2/4)
GNRS 543	Transitions Across the Care Continuum	6 (2/4)
GNRS 548	Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	2
Specialized Option Courses		2
Select from the following:		
GNRS 589	Adolescent Health Care	2
or GNRS 510	Family Theory in Health Care	
Concluding Courses		1-3
GNRS 597	Comprehensive Examination Directed Study	1
or		
GNRS 598 & GNRS 514	Thesis and Research Proposal Writing	3
Total Units		48-50

¹ Units shown in parentheses are classroom/clinical units.

Admission

University graduate admission and program-specific requirements must be met before an application is complete (see Admission to the University (<http://catalog.apu.edu/admissions/>)). **Program-specific application requirements are available online (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/apply/>).**

International students should contact Graduate and Professional Admissions (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/apply/>) for application procedures.