

# Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Certificate

The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate program (<https://www.apu.edu/nursing/programs/psychiatric-nurse-practitioner/>) is a nondegree course credit option for nurses with a master's degree in nursing.<sup>1</sup> This program prepares students as psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners for clients with psychiatric and mental health problems across the lifespan. Nurses are eligible to apply to the California Board of Registered Nursing (<https://www.m.ca.gov/>) for certification as a nurse practitioner, and may apply for national PMHNP certification through examination. **Note: Students must be admitted to the university before registering for this program (see Admission section below).**

<sup>1</sup> Students may be given transfer credits for previous content completed in a master's degree program. Students who hold current California certification as a nurse practitioner or nurse midwife, and students who hold a master's degree in nursing and/or national certification as a clinical nurse specialist (CNS), may challenge or request waiver of the coursework required for the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program, as appropriate to the student's current specialty. Petitions for challenge or waiver of courses must be initiated upon admission and approved by the MSN chair. Students must show proof of current nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, or clinical nurse specialist certification.

## Requirements

| Code                                       | Title   | Units     |
|--|---|-----------|
| <b>Advanced Practice Core Courses</b>      |   | <b>14</b> |
| GNRS 510                                   | Family Theory in Health Care  | 2         |
| 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 <sup>1</sup>    | 4 (3/1)   |
| <b>Advanced Practice Specialty Courses</b> |   | <b>29</b> |
| GNRS 533                                   | Psychiatric Theories across the Life Span                           | 2         |
| GNRS 534                                   | Integrated Psychiatric and Health Assessment across the Life Span   | 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         |
| <b>Total Units</b>                         |   | <b>43</b> |

<sup>1</sup> Units 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.

## Program Learning Outcomes

### Program Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this program shall be able to:

1. Articulate a Christian worldview, demonstrating respect for the dignity and uniqueness of others, valuing diversity, and applying spiritual concepts.
2. Engage in scholarly inquiry and critical thinking, including evaluation and application of evidence-based research.
3. Appraise and apply knowledge to develop, implement, and evaluate interventions that promote health and prevent disease.
4. Demonstrate thoughtful analysis of the legal, political, ethical, and/or financial factors impacting healthcare.

2 Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Certificate

5. Use information systems and technology to communicate, manage knowledge, promote quality, mitigate error and support decision-making.
6. Demonstrate the ability to coordinate and collaborate with other health care team professionals.
7. Engage in clinical reasoning, effective communication, and act as change agents to develop professional identity and practice skill.