



THE STABLER DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

2019-2020

Graduate Handbook

Master of Science Programs

Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Post Master's Certificate

Nurse Educator

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Doctoral Program

Doctor of Nursing Practice, Post-Master's

Doctor of Nursing Practice, Nurse Anesthesia (BS-DNP)

Graduate Programs in Nursing Overview	3
The Stabler Department of Nursing Graduate Faculty and Staff Directory	4
Introduction	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of the Graduate Programs in Nursing • Program Mission • Program Outcomes 	
Course Scheduling	7
Academic Policies	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous Enrollment Policy • Degree Completion Policy • Transfer Credits • Grading, Progress, and Dismissal • Grade Appeal • Academic Integrity • Definition of Academic Dishonesty • HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule • Social Media • Substance Use Policy • Policy on Unsafe Practice • Academic Advising • Student Grievance Process and Procedure 	
Leave of Absences, Re-Enrollment, Deferral	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave of Absence • Re-Enrollment • Deferral 	
Policies for Clinical Experience	13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Records • Graduate Student Requirements for Satisfactory Clinical Evaluation • Health Insurance • Simulation • Accidents/Exposure to Infectious Materials 	
Clinical Policies and Procedures	15
Nursing Organizations and Committees	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society of Nursing • Eta Eta Chapter, York College of Pennsylvania • Graduate Committee of the Stabler Department of Nursing 	
Nursing Convocation	17
Miscellaneous Policies	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniform Policy • Employer Surveys 	

Master of Science Programs	18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Outcomes • Curriculum Specifics • Course Format • Final Program Requirements • Program of Study • Post-Master’s Certificate • Special Requirements for the Post Master’s AGNP Program 	
Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Post-Master’s	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Overview • Program Outcomes • Program of Study • Academic Policies • Course Format • Clinical Residency • Scholarly Project • Scholarly Project Committee 	
Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, BS-DNP: Nurse Anesthesia	22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Overview • Program Outcomes • Curriculum Specifics • Terminal Project 	
<i>*BS-DNP students should also refer to the anesthesia program handbook for additional policies and procedures</i>	
Graduate Programs in Nursing Office Information	24
Student Acknowledgment Form	25

The Graduate Programs in Nursing provides nurses with opportunities to advance their skills as clinical leaders through preparation for advanced practice roles at the master's and doctoral levels.

The BS-DNP program awards the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree to graduates of the nurse anesthesia program. The full-time 36-month, 102-credit curriculum meets the requirements of both York College and WellSpan Health as well as the associated accrediting bodies. The program incorporates *Standards for Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (2015)*. The curriculum is centered on our core values of integrity, excellence, resolve and balances, as well as our program motto of "Vigilance, Knowledge, and Compassion".

The Doctor of Nursing Practice Program (DNP) enables master's prepared nurse experts to apply the principles of evidence-based practice to influence change in the delivery of health care. The curriculum provides an opportunity for evaluation of current practice and implementation of practice change initiatives to improve patient outcomes.

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program prepares nurses to practice as an Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialists (AGCNS), Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioners (AGNP), Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) or Nurse Educators (NE). It builds on undergraduate education through the development of advanced knowledge and expertise, based on the critique and application of theory and research. The Master of Science in Nursing Program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and thus adheres to CCNE standards, which inform curriculum development, course sequencing, and all other program elements.

At the entry level, the master's tracks all incorporate the Essentials for Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice (AACN, 2008) as a foundation to graduate education. Additionally, master's degree tracks incorporate the Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing (AACN, 2011) throughout the curricula. The *Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs* (NTF, 2016) and the *Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP Competencies (2010)*, of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, form the basis for the AGNP program and post-master's AGNP certificate. The AGCNS track incorporates *Criteria for the Evaluation of Clinical Nurse Specialist Master's, and Post-Graduate Certificate Educational Programs* (2011); these guidelines are used for any form of revision or update in the curricular tracks. QSEN competencies have been infused across the graduate curricula.

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INTRODUCTION

HISTORY OF THE GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN NURSING

Through the years, the York College Department of Nursing has developed and grown into a widely recognized high-caliber nursing program. An experienced, highly qualified faculty has kept program content current by engaging in a multiplicity of educational experiences themselves and making necessary curriculum changes to reflect current practice. York College graduates have been employed in many diverse positions and have assumed leadership roles.

Several feasibility studies were done during the past fifteen years to guide and inform the planning of graduate programs. The general consensus of the nursing community and health care employers was that programs preparing advanced practice nurses at the master's and doctoral levels were needed.

A Graduate Programs in Nursing Committee was initiated in the year 2000. With administrative support, the planning of the Master of Science in Nursing Program occurred during the ensuing two years. Criteria established by the *Essentials of Master's Education for Advanced Practice Nursing* guided the development of the program. The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and the Pennsylvania Department of Education approved the curriculum. Graduate nursing courses for the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) and Nurse Educator (NE) tracks were first offered in Fall 2002. The initial graduating class was in Spring 2005. The Graduate program was accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education Spring 2010.

Established in 2005, the York College of Pennsylvania/WellSpan Health Nurse Anesthetist Program (NAP) is the product of two organizations with a single goal: the initiation and subsequent continuation of a quality nurse anesthesia program in South Central Pennsylvania. As a shared governance program, the NAP draws guidance from the mission statements from each of its governing bodies, from which we derive a broad mission and philosophical guidance. The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) initially accredited the Nurse Anesthetist track in Spring 2006, and it was subsequently re-accredited for a full 10-year period in 2012. The first cohort of students began the program in Fall 2006, graduating in Spring 2009. In 2016, the Council on Accreditation for Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) approved the York College of Pennsylvania / WellSpan Health Nurse Anesthetist Program to convert from a master's degree granting program, to a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree-granting

program. Classes begin each May and graduate in May three years later. At the end of a student's second year, they will be awarded a master's degree in nursing, and at the end of their third year, a DNP. Students will be eligible to take the National Certifying Examination after receiving their DNP.

The Adult Nurse Practitioner (ANP) track was initially offered in Fall 2009 as a result of the 2008 APRN Consensus Model document. The program transitioned to an Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (AGNP) track in 2012. The first class eligible to sit for this certification graduated in Summer 2013. The AACN's 2011 *Essentials for Master's Education* and the 2010 *Adult-Gerontological Primary Care NP competencies* form the basis for the curriculum.

During the Spring of 2010, the Pennsylvania Department of Education approved the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP, Post-Masters) program. The first cohort began the program in the Fall of 2011, graduating Spring 2013.

The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing approved the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program in Fall 2018. The first cohort begins the program in Fall 2019, graduating Spring 2022.

PROGRAM MISSION

We are committed to providing high quality baccalaureate and graduate programs that build on a foundation of general education. The general education is used to facilitate the development of a broadly educated citizen, to support the nursing major, and is integrated throughout the program.

We are committed to a teaching-learning environment characterized by individual attention to students and their learning needs. Classroom and clinical experiences are provided to assist students to utilize critical thinking and communication skills in the application of theory to their professional and personal endeavors. Resources are selected to provide a variety of modes for the student to pursue both guided and independent learning. These include, but are not limited to, group and individual practice in the skills lab, access to audio visual materials, activities in the simulations labs, and supervised practice with patients in selected clinical sites.

We are committed to providing educational opportunities for traditional aged, adult, full-time and part-time students.

We are supportive of the college's commitment to acquiring a diverse student body and provide learning experiences, which promote cultural awareness.

We are attentive to community expressed needs by preparing practitioners who are equipped to practice in a changing health care scene.

We are committed to providing an environment that promotes academic honesty, personal integrity, and the ability to engage in ethical decision-making.

We strive to create a climate that puts emphasis on learning as a lifelong endeavor.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Individuals who have majored in nursing and who are candidates for the Master of Science degree from York College of Pennsylvania will demonstrate the ability to do the following:

1. Use knowledge from the arts, sciences, humanities, and the discipline of nursing in nursing practice to assist individuals and groups from diverse populations to adapt to changing health sates throughout the life span.
2. Provide safe and holistic nursing interventions to individuals and groups in a therapeutic manner, which acknowledges and accommodates diversity.
3. Facilitate learning for individuals and groups about health and activities that support a healthy environment.
4. Use leadership skills and ethical principles to foster and advocate for the provision of high quality nursing services to individuals and groups.
5. Utilize critical thinking skills to implement the nursing process in a caring and professional manner.
6. Incorporate research and evidence based findings to advance clinical excellence in nursing practice.
7. Communicate clearly and concisely both verbally and in writing.
8. Demonstrate use of technology and nursing informatics.
9. Utilize resources and strategies, which support lifelong learning and professional growth.

Course Scheduling

A schedule of classes for each semester is available online in the Registrar section of the college website along with a timetable for scheduling. A letter is sent to all new students from Library and Technology Services. This letter includes information regarding the York College network (MyYCP). Once students have activated their YCP account, they may register for courses online. A registration deposit is required each semester. We recommend that students register for courses as soon as possible in order to guarantee a place in the class and continue on course with their Program of Study. All students should consult with their academic advisor prior to registering each semester.

Academic Policies

Continuous Enrollment Policy

Upon acceptance into the graduate program in the AGNP, Post Masters AGNP, AGCNS, NE, PMHNP tracks or the DNP programs, the student must maintain enrollment in each semester, excluding summer sessions, by either (1) enrolling in one or more graduate courses or (2) paying a Continuous Enrollment Fee. Failure to maintain Continuous Enrollment status by either one of the two methods will automatically discontinue the student's enrollment in the graduate program. A student may maintain the Continuous Enrollment status by paying the Continuous Enrollment Fee for no more than two consecutive semesters, excluding summer sessions. The student must then enroll in one or more graduate courses for credit or the student will be discontinued from the master's program. A student who does not maintain Continuous Enrollment status or who has discontinued course work must reapply for admission to the graduate program when reactivation is desired. The nurse anesthetist BS-DNP is only offered as a full-time program, and students will be continuously enrolled as full-time graduate students for the duration of the program. Nurse anesthetist BS-DNP students who do not maintain Continuous Enrollment status will need approval from the Director of the Nurse Anesthesia BS-DNP Program to re-enroll in the program.

Degree Completion Policy

AGCNS, AGNP, PMHNP, and NE students have seven calendar years to complete the requirements for the Master of Science Program. This seven-year period begins upon enrollment in the first 500-level course. Students who do not complete program requirements within the established time limit must request an extension of time (up to one year) from the Director of Graduate Programs in Nursing.

Transfer Credits

A maximum of six credits (or two courses) in graduate study may be transferred in to YCP prior to the student's matriculation. All courses are reviewed by the Director of Graduate Programs in Nursing or by appropriate faculty. Graduate level research courses without an EBP component will not be accepted for transfer credit. Once matriculated, if students wish to take a course at another institution, they must seek prior approval.

Grading, Progress, and Dismissal

- Candidates for graduate degrees in nursing are required to earn at least a B (3.0) in every course in order to progress through the curriculum and graduate. Courses in which the student earns less than a B (3.0) must be repeated before progression to the next course. The student is allowed to repeat a course one time only. A student with a grade less than a B (3.0) in any course must repeat that course in the next semester that it is offered in order to maintain status as a graduate student. A second grade of less than a B (3.0) results in automatic dismissal from the program. As courses may only be offered once per year, this may effectively add time to the program of study. If a course is repeated, both grades will appear on the transcript, but only the highest grade is used in calculating the grade point average.
- Professors may give a course grade of incomplete ("INC") if circumstances justify an extension of time required to complete course requirements. A student with an "INC" grade in any course that is a prerequisite to another course will not be allowed to enroll in the subsequent course until the "INC" in the prerequisite course has been removed and replaced by a B (3.0) or better except with the permission of the Director of Graduate Programs. As courses may only be offered once per year, this may effectively add time to the program of study. The "INC" must be resolved within 60 days or the "INC" automatically turns to a failure (0.0) according to college policy.
- Failure of a **clinical portion of a course** results in dismissal from the program.
- If an NP student Falls out of progression for any reason, the student will not be ready for the clinical portion of the NP curriculum (NUR 522) in the Fall semester that was originally anticipated when the student was accepted into the program. Because the program cannot overload clinical courses, the student may have to wait until a clinical slot opens up in order to progress.
- Students in the nurse anesthetist track who earn less than a B (3.0) will not be eligible to progress in coursework until the grade is remediated. As courses may only be offered once per year, this may effectively add time to the program of study.
- Conduct consistent with the ethical and professional standards of the discipline is required. Violation of these standards is grounds for dismissal.
- Disruption in the suggested progression of courses for the nursing major for any reason may result in delay in placement in nursing courses with clinical components.

Grade Appeal

A student contemplating filing a grade appeal understands that consistent with the practice of academic freedom, professors bear responsibility for assigning course grades in accordance with professionally acceptable standards that have been communicated to students verbally or in writing. Students who believe that their final grade in a course does not accurately reflect their performance should appeal their grade directly to the course instructor. A student can appeal a grade until the end of the following semester. Following discussion with the instructor, the student may request a review of his or her grade by the Department Chair if the student believes his or her concern has not been adequately addressed.

Academic Integrity Policy

York College of Pennsylvania, as an institution of higher education, serves to promote and sustain the creation, acquisition, and dissemination of knowledge. In order to fulfill this purpose, an environment of integrity, dependability and honesty must be maintained by all members of the York College community. Without a foundation based on intellectual honesty and integrity, the very ability to uphold the academic endeavors that York College strives to pursue is inhibited.

The Spartan Oath embodies the expectation that all members of the York College community foster an environment of integrity and responsibility. Recognize that adhering to an ethical standard of honesty leads to professional, mature and responsible citizens, enables society-at-large to trust our scholarship, research, and conferred degrees. Thus, each member of the York College community must be truthful, honest, personally and professionally responsible, and respect the intellectual contributions of others.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Engaging in academic dishonesty is a violation of the school's academic integrity policy and is not tolerated at York College. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, cheating on assignments or examinations, plagiarism (i.e. passing someone else's words or ideas off as one's own without proper attribution), improper paraphrasing, fabricating research, falsifying academic documents, handing in material completed for another course, and submitting work not done independently (unless part of an explicitly collaborative project).

Procedures for Academic Integrity Reporting and Appeals can be found in the College Catalog.

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996 (HIPAA) PRIVACY RULE

York College of Pennsylvania (YCP) Stabler Department of Nursing (SDON) Privacy and Confidentiality Statement Maintaining patient confidentiality is an essential part of the professional nurse's role. Students are expected to conduct themselves professionally in all learning environments. All faculty and students have an ethical and legal obligation to maintain patient privacy and confidentiality at all times. Students are expected to follow all elements outlined in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule:

<https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/privacy/laws-regulations/index.html>

Once students begin clinical rotations, HIPAA must be strictly followed to ensure safe, confidential patient care. Faculty and students obtain information about patients prior to and during clinical experiences. Information obtained about any assigned patients may be shared confidentially only with faculty members and other students when appropriate in the learning environment. Accessing the records of

patients for whom the student has no direct care role is strictly prohibited. The violation of HIPAA is a federal offense. Nursing faculty and students are required to comply with standards of documentation and confidentiality. They are mandated by state and federal regulatory agencies and accrediting bodies, including applicable requirements of HIPAA and guidelines established and approved by the clinical agencies. Breach of the YCP SDON Privacy and Confidentiality Statement is strictly prohibited, even in personal communications. The violation of this policy by any YCP nursing student will be grounds for disciplinary action up to and may include dismissal from the nursing program. The SDON cannot be held responsible for any repercussions that may arise from the inappropriate use or release of confidential patient information by any YCP student.

Social Media Use

In online social networks, the lines between public and private, personal, and professional are blurred. Students who identify themselves as a York College nursing student create perceptions about York College, York College nursing, and themselves. Students should maintain the awareness that they are contributing to the global image of nursing and are always representing York College nursing as well as the nursing profession.

Students are reminded to:

- Be sure all content associated with you is consistent with your professionalism and YCP's reputation.
- Be aware of your role as a professional. The posting of certain material/information may violate certain laws and the professionalism status of nursing. Improper use of social media may violate the SDON or YCP student code of conduct and subject the student to disciplinary action.
- Be aware that information posted and shared online is NOT confidential. Anything you post or are tagged in is visible to the world-at-large and may affect your professional reputation not just as a student or for your future professional career as well. Employers routinely conduct an online search when evaluating potential job candidates.
- Avoid posting or sharing any information related to nursing clinical experiences. Simply avoiding the use of a patient's name in communication does not protect you from a HIPAA violation. Posting details about clinical experiences, locations, or circumstances related to clinical agency sites is also a violation.
- Avoid posting disparaging or offensive comments about nursing student peers, nursing faculty, nursing courses, or clinical experiences or the YCP nursing program.

Incidents of inappropriate posting or use of social media will be reviewed on an individual basis by the SDON Chairperson and a group of faculty to evaluate the consequence and severity of the infraction.

Disciplinary action for inappropriate posting to or use of social media could result in a warning, failure of course, or dismissal from the nursing program.

Resources are provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). Students are encouraged to review the NCSBN Social Media Guidelines as well as the NCSBN Nurse's Guide to the Use of Social Media.

Substance Use Policy

The SDON has a vested interest in the health and welfare of its students. Furthermore, the SDON has a duty and obligation to protect the public health and safety. If a didactic or clinical faculty member suspects possible substance abuse by a student who is in a class or clinical setting, they will report to the Chair of the Stabler Department of Nursing and the Dean of The School of Nursing and Health Professions immediately. The Graduate Programs in Nursing Director has the authority to temporarily suspend the student from the clinical component of the curriculum pending discussions with the identified student, the reporting faculty member, and SDON administrative personnel (including the Chair and Dean noted above). Please refer to the current YCP Graduate Catalog and/or specific graduate nursing program information for additional details.

Policy on Unsafe Practice

1. The nursing faculty of York College of Pennsylvania has an academic, legal, and ethical responsibility to prepare a graduate who is competent as well as to protect the public and health care community from unsafe nursing practice. It is within this context that a student may be disciplined or dismissed from a graduate program for practice or behavior which threatens or has the potential to threaten the safety of a patient, a family member or substitute familial person, another student, a faculty member, or other health care provider.
2. Every student is expected to be familiar with the principles of safe practice and is expected to perform in accordance with these requirements. Within courses, counseling and advising processes, and other instructional forums, students will be provided with the opportunity to discuss the policy and its implications. Being unprepared for clinical may constitute an unsafe practice and the student may be sent home at the discretion of the clinical faculty.
3. An unsafe practice is defined as:
 - a. An act or behavior of the type which violates the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Code, Title 49. Professional and Vocational Standards, 21.18 Standards of Nursing Conduct.
 - b. An act or behavior of the type which violates the code for Nurses of the American Nurses' Association.
 - c. An act or behavior which threatens or has the potential to threaten the physical, emotional, mental or environmental safety of the patient, a family member or substitute familial person, another student, a faculty member, or other health care provider.
 - d. An act of behavior (commission or omission) which constitutes nursing practice for which a student is not authorized or educated at the time of the incident.

Academic Advising

Academic Advising is an essential process in the college setting. Upon entering the Graduate Program at York College, every student is assigned an academic advisor who is qualified to assist in:

- Planning the coursework of the program of study;
- Developing strategies for academic success;
- Providing guidance and information in preparation for the student's career and life goals.

Academic advisors are available to meet with their advisees during their regularly scheduled office hours when the College is in session in the Fall and Spring semesters or by appointment at other times. In addition, other academic support services are offered regularly on campus.

While academic advising assists students in academic planning, it is ultimately the student's responsibility to meet the academic requirements for graduation. The student is expected to meet regularly with his/her

advisor to discuss the development and implementation of short and long-term academic goals. The final responsibility in meeting graduation requirements, however, rests with the student.

Student Grievance Process

The Stabler Department of Nursing follows the Student Grievance Process as outlined in the York College of Pennsylvania Student Handbook.

Leave of Absences, Re-Enrollment, Deferral

Leave of Absence

Students who do not register for a course during a semester (Fall, Spring or Summer) but plan to take a course in the subsequent semester, must register for Continuous Enrollment (see page 6 of this handbook). Students may be granted a leave of absence for special circumstances at the discretion of the Director of Graduate Programs in Nursing, The Stabler Department of Nursing Chair, and with approval from the Provost's Office. If seeking a Leave of Absence (LOA), the student must communicate plans to the Director of the Graduate Programs in Nursing in writing. This should include the LOA time request. Students are responsible for understanding the implications of a LOA on financial aid, and registering for appropriate future course work. If a student is on a LOA for more than three semesters, (Fall, Spring, Summer), and does not register for the subsequent semester, the student will be withdrawn from the College at the end of the drop/add period of the third semester.

Re-Enrollment

Students who have withdrawn from the College must contact The Stabler Department of Nursing office to find out what application documentation needs to be resubmitted as a new applicant.

Applicants who reapply for admission to York College who have earned graduate credits at another institution since their most recent enrollment at York College, and who want those courses to be considered as transfer credits and/or for enrollment decisions, must submit original transcripts from each institution attended before a re-admission decision can be made.

To be eligible for re-admission, applicants must be in good standing with the College and the academic program must have the capacity to accept additional students. Additional conditions such as reapplying or interviewing for a specific program may be required.

Deferral

Once a student interviews for a program and is accepted but for unforeseen reasons cannot commit, he/she can request in writing a deferral for the next start of the specific program to the Director of the Graduate Programs in Nursing - (AGNP and PMHNP are Fall start only; DNP Post-Master's and BS-DNP Nurse Anesthetist are Summer start only). A deferral cannot be extended beyond one academic year.

Disruption in the suggested progression of courses in the nursing major for any reason may result in delay in placement in nursing courses with clinical components.

Health Records

Students must submit the following documentation prior to registering for the first course requiring practice in a clinical nursing or educational setting. We are currently using Certified Profile to track our student clinical requirements. Information on this system will be provided prior to the first clinical course.

- Student Health and Medical Record. The required information includes:
 - Health insurance information: Please provide proof of coverage (copy of insurance card) annually.
 - Adequate immunization/immunity history (see form for details)
 - Tdap (Adacel or Boostrix) is required. A dose of Tdap after age 11 should replace one decennial tetanus booster. Please ensure that the healthcare provider specifies which type of vaccine was received on the form.
 - Adequate evidence of immunity to chickenpox as demonstrated by two doses of varicella vaccine or a titer (blood test) indicating immunity. History of disease is NOT acceptable evidence of immunity.
 - Influenza immunization is recommended annually for all health care providers. Some clinical sites may require that students who have not had flu vaccine wear a mask for all patient contact. Students may be denied access to clinical sites if not vaccinated against influenza. Students should provide documentation whenever they receive their annual flu vaccine and may be asked to sign a declination form each flu season.
 - PPD (TB test) administered within the last 6 months. This will need to be updated annually throughout the student's participation in YCP's Nursing Program. If the student is a PPD reactor, an alternative TB screening questionnaire is available, or a QTB Gold test may be accepted.
 - Physical exam – must have been within the past 12 months. Physical exam may need to be updated every two years.
- Dental Examination Report – may be based on the student's most recent exam, if within the last year.
- Urine Drug Screening through Certified Profile.
- CURRENT PROFESSIONAL LEVEL CPR CERTIFICATION (and ACLS if the student will have clinical in a critical care area, ACLS/PALS for nurse anesthetist students).
- LIABILITY INSURANCE: Students must have coverage with the terms of at least \$2 million per occurrence/\$6 million aggregate. YCP offers coverage of \$1 mil/\$3 mil billed automatically through the Business Office on the regular semester bill. You must make up the coverage gap of \$1 mil/\$3 mil. Please provide a copy of the proof of coverage at each annual renewal.
- AGNP students must inform their carriers that they need coverage as a nurse practitioner student. This distinction must be made prior to taking NUR522/523. Beginning in the second year, Nurse Anesthetist students will obtain insurance through AANA but must provide a regular RN liability policy the first two semesters.
- RN LICENSE: Student must provide a copy of their current PA license, as well as a copy each time it is updated in April or October. If a student has clinical in other states (e.g. Maryland or Wisconsin) the student is responsible to provide a copy of the license or online verification for that state.
- BACKGROUND CHECKS: All nursing students must have a PA Criminal Record Check, PA Child Abuse History Clearance, and FBI clearance for the PA Dept. of Human Services through Cogent Systems, Inc. prior to clinical. Some background checks may need to be updated annually.

Graduate Student Requirements for Satisfactory Clinical Evaluation

The student will be assigned a failure (1.0 or 0) for a clinical course if he/she is unable to demonstrate competent clinical practice and integration of theoretical content in practice role. Failure for the course will be given if the student is unable to meet the objectives. The course faculty supervising the student determines final clinical grades. Preceptors do not assign grades.

Health Insurance

All students taking clinical courses are required to have health insurance. Proof of insurance (e.g. copy of insurance card) is required annually.

Simulation

1. Simulation is a clinical experience for students. Students will:
 - a. Participate fully and in a professional manner.
 - b. Treat simulation as a realistic patient care experience.
 - c. Preserve realism by handling the patient with respect, avoiding laughter, and limiting side conversations.
 - d. Prepare for simulation as for a clinical experience.
 - e. Bring necessary personal equipment, i.e., stethoscope, watch.
 - f. Stow belongings in lockers; backpacks and purses may not be brought into the simulation rooms.
 - g. Leave food and beverages in lockers, they are not permitted in simulation or control rooms.
 - h. Arrive punctually for the scheduled simulation time.
 - i. Perform safety procedures (hand hygiene, universal precautions, sharp objects disposal) as in the healthcare setting.
 - j. Use manikins responsibly, avoid excessive pressure or rough treatment.
 - k. Use pencil (not pen or marker) in the simulation rooms.
 - l. Students will hold in confidence all information about the content of simulation scenarios and the performance of other students during simulation.

2. Students may be photographed or video recorded during simulation.
 - a. These photographs and video recordings may be used for debriefing, educational, or marketing purposes on the York College campus and in York College printed and electronic publications and presentations. Students will have the opportunity to approve the use of their photograph or video recordings for other purposes.
 - b. Students may view their videos in Diehl Hall. They may not upload videos to social media such as YouTube or Facebook, or take videos outside of Diehl Hall in any other way.
 - c. The videos will be recorded on a password protected laptop located in a control room. The videos will remain on that laptop through the end of that semester and then be deleted. Occasionally examples could also be selected and moved to a faculty member's H (home) drive for educational purposes. Access to those video recordings from faculty offices and classrooms is password protected and is possible only when the control room laptop is powered on.

Accidents/Exposure to Infectious Materials

Should an accident that leads to student injury occur in clinical, the student will inform the faculty who will facilitate compliance with the clinical agency policy. If a student is exposed to the blood or body fluids, the student will inform the faculty. The clinical agency policy will be followed regarding determination of

significance of exposure, patient/client follow up with serologic testing, as well as serologic testing for the student.

The student must assume responsibility for payment for these tests and treatments related to any accident or exposure unless the agency is willing to do so.

In the event that a student is accidentally injured during a practice session in the Nursing Skills Laboratory, the student should seek assistance from the faculty or the laboratory assistant. The faculty or lab assistant will administer first aid for the injury or refer the student to the YCP Health Center. The student must assume financial responsibility for tests and treatments.

Documentation of any incident described above is to be recorded by the faculty or lab assistant and placed in the student's file.

Clinical Policies and Procedures

The following are student responsibilities:

1. AGNP and PMHNP student requests for clinical experiences with particular preceptors may be submitted to the director of the nurse practitioner tracks; however, students are not solely responsible for finding their own clinical sites. Faculty will assist in obtaining clinical placements that are appropriate for each student, and to make periodic evaluations of the sites to ensure that excellent learning opportunities are available. Once clinical sites are assigned, it is the student's responsibility to arrange their clinical schedule according to the needs of the preceptor. Every opportunity will be taken to place students as close to their home as possible, however, students may be required to travel to distant sites, generally within one hour of their home location. **Clinical may not occur over breaks or if the college is closed for inclement weather.**
2. AGCNS student requests for particular clinical experiences may be submitted to the Seminar course faculty. The faculty will make clinical placements based on appropriateness for each student's learning needs and will make periodic site visits to ensure that excellent learning opportunities are available. Once clinical placement is assigned, the student is responsible for meeting with the preceptor to arrange clinical dates that meet the needs of the preceptor. Following an initial meeting with the preceptor, the student will develop learning objectives for the clinical experience. Learning objectives and clinical dates must be submitted to the faculty member for approval prior to beginning any clinical time. Students may not alter clinical dates without directly contacting the faculty member and the preceptor in advance. Students may be required to travel to distant sites for clinical activities. Students may attend clinical only while the college is in regular session. **Clinical may not occur over breaks or if the college is closed for inclement weather.**
3. Nurse anesthetist student clinical dates, times, and locations will be provided for the student by the Program Clinical Coordinator. No changes in rotations will be permitted without the consent of the Clinical Coordinator or Program Director. Students may be required to travel to distant clinical sites for some activities. Inclusion of clinical sites is based on a detailed study submitted to and approved by the AANA COA. Students are to be in clinical ONLY during those times set by the program, and in those locations approved by the program and the AANA COA. Anesthesia specific student liability insurance must be purchased by the student prior to entry into clinical practice. Guidance on purchasing this insurance will be provided by the program. Other details regarding clinical rotations will be found in the student clinical handbook.
4. NE student requests for particular clinical experiences may be submitted to the Seminar course faculty. The faculty will make clinical placements based on appropriateness for each student's

learning needs and will make periodic site visits to ensure that excellent learning opportunities are available. Once clinical placement is assigned, the student is responsible for meeting with the preceptor to arrange clinical dates that meet the needs of the preceptor. Following an initial meeting with the preceptor, the student will develop learning objectives for the clinical experience. Learning objectives and clinical dates must be submitted to the faculty member for approval prior to beginning any clinical time. Students may not alter clinical dates without directly contacting the faculty member and the preceptor in advance. Students may be required to travel to distant sites for clinical activities. Students may attend clinical only while the college is in regular session. **Clinical may not occur over breaks or if the college is closed for inclement weather.**

5. DNP (post-master's) student choice of clinical site and preceptor is a result of collaboration among the student, agency clinical mentor, and faculty.
6. Student clinical evaluations for students enrolled in the nurse anesthetist track are described in detail in the student clinical handbook.
7. Clinical experiences are graded as Pass or Fail. Students failing to meet the course and/or clinical objectives and required number of clinical hours will be assigned a failure for the course. Students placed on probation who do not meet the objectives of the probationary period will be assigned a failure for the course (see Graduate Student Requirements for Satisfactory Clinical Evaluation).

Nursing Organizations and Committees

Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society of Nursing & ETA ETA Chapter, YCP

The society exists to: recognize superior achievement and scholarship; recognize the development of leadership qualities; foster high professional standards; encourage creative work; and to strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession.

Each year during the Spring semester, the Eligibility Committee of Eta Eta Chapter invites Graduate students who meet the required criteria to apply for membership in Sigma Theta Tau. The eligibility criteria applied in review of Graduate students include the following:

1. Cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
2. Submission of application and a CV or resume by the deadline in April of each year.

Application information can be obtained on the Eta Eta section of the YCP nursing department webpage. Members of the Eligibility Committee review student application materials and transcripts. Those who meet required criteria are recommended for induction into the society. An induction ceremony is held annually in the Fall.

Graduate Committee of The Stabler Department of Nursing

Graduate students who wish to serve on The Stabler Department of Nursing Graduate Committee should contact the Director of the Graduate Programs in Nursing by September 1 of each new school year to express their interest. The Nurse Anesthetist program has student representatives from each of three cohorts that attend on that program's behalf for their cohort. One student from this committee will also represent the graduate student population at monthly Stabler Department of Nursing faculty meetings.

Nursing Convocation

Nursing Convocation is a semi-annual ceremony and reception to honor baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral graduating classes (Graduate Programs are recognized in May). The Stabler Department of Nursing sponsors convocation. Departmental and other awards are presented during this ceremony. All Graduate students participate in the Spring convocation featuring a graduating Master's student and/or Doctoral student as a speaker(s). The graduates of the master's and doctoral programs receive their hoods during the ceremony.

Miscellaneous Policies

Uniform Policy

Graduate Programs in Nursing do not have a uniform policy; however, a lab coat displaying the YCP ID badge should be worn during all clinical rotations. Lab coats can be purchased online from the York College Bookstore (via the bookstore page of the YCP website). Nurse Practitioner students should purchase a white graduate lab coat. Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Educator students are to purchase a navy graduate lab coat. *Nurse Anesthetist students should refer to the NAP office for lab coat instructions.

The following general guidelines apply to all clinical settings, whether in the Simulation Lab, Nursing Skills Lab, or patient unit:

- a. Hair is to be neat and conservative, off the collar, and away from eyes. Mustaches and beards must be clean, neat and closely trimmed. All hair must be natural in color, not necessarily a student's own natural color, but must be considered a natural color (i.e. blonde, brown, etc.) Approval rests with the supervising faculty in the clinical setting.
- b. Visible tattoos must be covered.
- c. Piercings must be removed with the exception of one small pair of post earrings in the earlobe.
- d. Other jewelry is limited to watch and wedding band.
- e. Nails are to be manicured, clean, and short. Artificial nails are not acceptable. Only clear nail polish is acceptable.
- f. YCP photo identification badge is to be worn.

Employer Surveys

As part of the accreditation process, we are required to keep employer data on file for graduates at one year, (three year also for BS-DNP graduates), five years, and ten years. Graduates will receive information each summer to update their files in the graduate office.

Program Outcomes

The program outcomes of the Master of Science degree in nursing program are to prepare graduates who will be able to:

1. Practice in a leadership role in advanced nursing practice AGNP, CNS, and/or NE in response to the needs and demands of society and the changing health care environment.
2. Role model, ethical, legal, and professional standards for advanced nursing practice and nursing education.
3. Integrate advanced knowledge of nursing and related disciplines in the roles of AGNP, CNS or Nurse Anesthetist.
4. Evaluate and apply evidence-based practice (EBP) research to clinical, educational or administrative settings, thus improving patient care, health care systems, and nursing education.
5. Assume responsibility for self-directed, life-long learning and for promoting the professional development of nursing staff and/or students.
6. Design strategies to promote health and collaborative relationships with members of the health care team.
7. Act as a resource for other nurses in the areas of clinical practice, outcomes and evaluation, professional standards, evidence-based practice, and other health care issues.
8. Pass a national certification examination for AGNP, CNS, or NE.
9. Prepare for entry into a doctoral program.

Curriculum Specifics

The curriculum is delivered on a part-time basis for the AGNP, AGCNS, PMHNP, and NE tracks. There are four curriculum sequences for these tracks: the Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist role with an education focus, Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and the Nurse Educator role. The curriculum is designed so that students are free to schedule courses, as they are able to take them with some exceptions. For the AGCNS and NE tracks, students must take Seminar I and Seminar II and Comprehensive Care of Older Adults during the last two semesters. During these three courses, students will apply knowledge and skills accrued during earlier studies. An education course may be taken with Seminar I and Seminar II. The four AGNP clinical courses, Diagnosis and Management of Clinical Problems in Adults I, Diagnosis and Management of Clinical Problems of Adults II, Comprehensive Care of Older Adults; and Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Seminar are taken during the last three semesters in the order listed. It is also strongly recommended that Advanced Pathophysiology, Assessment, and Pharmacology courses be taken during the three semesters immediately prior to the first AGNP clinical course rather than earlier in the sequence. The four PMHNP clinical courses, Advanced Diagnosis and Psychopathology Across the Lifespan I, Advanced Diagnosis and Psychopathology Across the Lifespan II, Advanced Psychotherapeutic Treatment Modalities Across the Lifespan, and Advanced Diagnosis and Psychotherapeutic Modalities in Special Populations are taken during the last 4 semesters in the order listed (Psychopharmacology Across the Lifespan must be taken prior to beginning clinical coursework).

Students pursuing the Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist role will complete 41 credits and will be eligible to take the examination to become credentialed by the American Nurse Credentialing Center as an Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist. Students pursuing the Nurse Educator role will complete 39 credits and will be eligible to write the National League for Nursing examination for Nurse Educators.

The Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner track consists of 44 credits preparing the graduates for Primary Care Adult- Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Certification examinations from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) track consists of 48 credits preparing the graduate to pursue certification through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) as a Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

Course Format

Core courses for all master's tracks are delivered in a blended format with fifty percent of the course online and fifty percent face to face.

Final Program Requirements

Students will also be expected to complete a portfolio that will be submitted during the final semester of the program. Requirements for the portfolio will be presented in NUR512 Theoretical Basis for Professional Role Development. Individual track requirements for the portfolio will be given during the final semester of the program.

Program of Study

An individualized *Program of Study* is provided to students by their advisor.

Post Master's Certificate

A Post Master's Certificate can be earned in the Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner track. The qualifications for participation include graduation from a CCNE-accredited master's nursing program. In accordance with the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education (2012) a Gap Analysis is performed by the director of the graduate programs to determine an individualized Program of Study for post master's students.

Special Requirements for the Post Master's AGNP Program

The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing requires a 45-hour pharmacology course in order to apply for prescriptive privileges after graduation from a nurse practitioner program. The Board will not accept the course if it was completed greater than five years prior to application for privileges. A post master's student who plans to seek privileges in the State of Pennsylvania after graduation, and whose Advanced Pharmacology course will be older than five years by the time of graduation, will be required to re-take a course that is approved by the AGNP program director and the State Board of Nursing. If privileges will be sought in a state that does not have this requirement, the student will be required to take a continuing education pharmacology refresher course. These requirements must be met prior to enrollment in NUR522/523.

Program Overview

The post-master's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program prepares nurse leaders to apply advanced practice skills at the highest level of clinical practice. Throughout the course, the highest standards of study and performance are expected. Students will acquire the skills to influence change that will improve health outcomes in populations specific to their advanced specialty preparation. The development of evidence-based interventions, quality improvement methodologies, and health policy changes to enhance health care delivery at the system-wide practice level will be emphasized. The program culminates with practice immersion experiences in which the student develops, implements, and evaluates a practice change initiative within the clinical setting.

Program Outcomes

The broad objectives of the DNP program are to prepare the advanced practice nurse who will:

1. Integrate science from nursing and other disciplines with advanced nursing practice to identify, develop, and evaluate practice change initiatives that lead to improved health outcomes in targeted populations.
2. Develop the knowledge and skills to influence health organizations and complex systems to adopt quality improvement strategies that address patient safety and health disparities in diverse populations.
3. Incorporate knowledge of evidence-based practice into advanced clinical decision-making by providing leadership in the practice setting through evaluation of practice and translation of research in practice.
4. Analyze, select, and evaluate appropriate information and patient care technologies that influence quality of care improvement in the practice setting.
5. Apply knowledge of health policy-making, evaluation, and implementation to influence health providers, policy-makers, and health consumers.
6. Develop skill in inter- and intra-professional communication and leadership in healthcare settings.
7. Synthesize and manage individual and aggregate-level data to improve the health status and outcomes of populations.
8. Demonstrate advanced clinical decision-making and clinical leadership skills to provide culturally-sensitive, comprehensive care to patient groups within an advanced practice specialty role.

Program of Study

An individualized *Program of Study* is provided to students by their advisor. A generic version is located on the department webpage.

Academic Policies

Students will be expected to enroll in the program for six consecutive semesters, including two summer, as a member of a cohort group. However, if there are extenuating life circumstances that interfere with the student's ability to maintain continuous enrollment, the student may petition for a leave of absence. Leaves of absence will be granted on a one-year basis. Students needing a leave of absence will be encouraged to continue the program with the next cohort group. The maximum period of candidacy will be 7 years.

Course Format

Some of the courses in the post-master's DNP program are delivered in a blended format with fifty percent of the course online and fifty percent face to face.

Clinical Residency

The Clinical Residency courses (NUR730 and NUR731), offered during the third and fourth semester of the program are intended to provide an opportunity for the DNP student to enhance clinical and leadership skills that may be needed in order to complete the proposed scholarly project. Objectives for the residency courses will be developed in collaboration with the student's DNP advisor.

Clinical experiences need not be limited to direct patient care, but will include activities that will supplement the student's skill set, related to the proposed practice change project. Clinical sites such as current practice sites, schools, health departments, churches, government agencies, voluntary organizations, and community groups may be utilized.

Scholarly Project

The DNP scholarly project represents the culminating practice experience in which the student develops, implements, and evaluates a practice change in the clinical setting. The scholarly project addresses an identified need for a targeted population. The purpose of the project is to implement a program in the practice setting that will improve patient outcomes for the targeted population. Students will use evidence-based literature to support the need for the practice change. A systematic approach will be applied to data collection and evaluation.

Planning for the project begins during the second semester of the program. During the third and fourth semesters, students will design clinical experiences that will enhance their ability to successfully implement the project. The project will be implemented in the practice setting during the fifth semester. In the final (sixth) semester, students will evaluate outcomes to determine the impact of their practice change and develop plans to sustain the change after completion of the program. Oral and written documentation of the scholarly project will also occur in the final semester.

The following is a partial list of the types of scholarly projects that may be implemented:

- Design and evaluate new models of care
- Develop, implement and evaluate health programs (e.g. health promotion, prevention)
- Implement a quality improvement program
- Design models for use of technology to enhance care
- Collaborate on legislative and health policy changes
- Implement evidence-based practice guidelines and evaluate outcomes

Scholarly Project Committee

Upon admission into the program, students will be assigned a York College faculty member who will act as chair/advisor of the project committee. The chair of the committee will guide the student in all project steps throughout the course of the program. Students will also need to identify a second York College faculty member who will be a resource for the project, and who will act as reviewer of the written documentation of the project. The student will identify a third project committee member from the clinical agency in which implementation will take place. The second two committee members are typically selected during NUR710 EBP I.

Program Overview

In June 2016, the BS to DNP program for nurse anesthetists received approval from the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs to award the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree to graduates of the nurse anesthesia program with the first class entering May 2017. The full-time 36-month, 102-credit curriculum meets the requirements of both York College and WellSpan Health as well as the associated accrediting bodies. The curriculum is centered on our core values of integrity, excellence, resolve and balance and our program motto of “Vigilance, Knowledge and Compassion”.

A nurse anesthetist is responsible for planning and administering the anesthetic, monitoring every aspect of the patient’s well-being, and advocating for the patient during the surgery. Upon graduation, students are eligible for certification as a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) by the National Board on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA). The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education accredit the program.

Program Outcomes

Objectives of the DNP Nurse Anesthetists program include:

1. Apply knowledge to practice in decision-making and problem solving
2. Use science-based theories and concepts to analyze new practice approaches.
3. Provide nurse anesthesia services based on evidence based principles
4. Provide anesthesia services to all patients across the lifespan
5. Perform a comprehensive history and physical assessment
6. Provide individualized care throughout the perianesthesia continuum
7. Be vigilant in the delivery of patient care
8. Respect the dignity and privacy of patients while maintaining confidentiality in the delivery of interprofessional care
9. Administer general anesthesia for a variety of surgical and medically related procedures
10. Administer and manage a variety of regional anesthetics
11. Recognize, evaluate, and manage the physiological responses coincident to the provision of anesthesia services
12. Recognize and appropriately manage complications that occur during the provision of anesthesia services
13. Utilize interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective interprofessional exchange of information and collaboration with other healthcare professionals
14. Protect patients from iatrogenic complications
15. Adhere to the Code of Ethics for the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
16. Interact on a professional level with integrity

Curriculum Specifics

The nurse anesthetist program is only offered as a full-time BS-DNP program. The curriculum is designed in a highly structured fashion designed to meet or exceed the accreditation requirements of the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA). The COA has approved the York College of Pennsylvania / WellSpan Health Nurse Anesthetist Program's Doctor of Nursing Practice degree granting program. Classes begin each May.

At the end of your second year, you will be awarded a master's degree in nursing, and at the end of your third year, a DNP. You will be eligible to take the National Certifying Examination after successful completion of your DNP.

Terminal Student Project

The TSP structured portfolio contains the following:

1. The portfolio contains a weekly journal entry of the student's impressions of their current progress in the program. The student's faculty advisor will review these journal entries during each advising session.
2. The capstone project contains a description and documentation of completion of an individual project, or participation in a group project providing service to the anesthesia program, an anesthesia professional organization, or some community-based organization, involving no less than 40 hours of service. A faculty advisor will supervise this project, and assist the student in its development. Students may work in groups of two or three if the project is of sufficient size to merit group work.
3. An electronic log of patient encounters
4. Five (5) complex case narratives
5. The portfolio reflects the completion of either:
 - a. The submission of a manuscript in which the student is the primary or secondary author in a peer-reviewed journal, or
 - b. A formal presentation (minimum of 60 minutes) at a state, regional, or local professional meeting
6. The portfolio contains a context-specific abstract for a systems-based project that addresses quality, safety, access and/or cost of some evidence-based issue in anesthesia. The student's faculty advisor may guide the student towards specific resources or persons to assist with this part of the portfolio. Work on this project may commence any time after the completion Evidence Based Practice 1, NUR 710. A rubric will be provided to the students to guide the development and evaluation of this project.
7. The portfolio summarizes a plan for future continued learning after graduation, and should not exceed one page in length.

Mailing Address

York College of Pennsylvania
Graduate Programs in Nursing
441 Country Club Road
York, PA 17403

GPS Address

York College of Pennsylvania
890 Grantley Road
York, PA 17403

Telephone Number

717-815-1462 Master of Science and Post Masters DNP Programs
717-815-6550 Nurse Anesthetist Program

Office Hours for AGNP, AGCNS, NE, PMHNP, and DNP (Post-Masters) Programs

Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30 pm

Summer Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday 8:00am to 5:00pm
Friday 8:00am to 11:30am

Office Hours for DNP, Nurse Anesthetist Program

Monday through Friday 7:00am to 3:30pm

Faculty Office Hours

Faculty office hours are posted on each individual faculty office door.
Summer hours are by appointment only.

Email

*Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Post Masters Certificate
Nurse Educator and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner*
msnursing@ycp.edu

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THE STABLER DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
GRADUATE PROGRAMS

**Master of Science Programs
Doctor of Nursing Practice Programs
Student Acknowledgement Form**

Name: (please print):

(Last Name) (First Name) (M)

RECEIPT

I attest that I have been made aware of the online location of the York College of Pennsylvania, Stabler Department of Nursing, Graduate Programs in Nursing Student Handbook and accept responsibility for the information contained therein as well as that found within the York College of Pennsylvania College Catalog and Student Handbook.

Signature Date