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| For Academic Affairs and Research Use Only |
| Proposal Number |  |
| CIP Code:  |  |
| Degree Code: |  |

**NEW CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FORM**

(Also requires Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) approval)

**[ ] Undergraduate Curriculum Council**

**[X] Graduate Council**

Signed paper copies of proposals submitted for consideration are no longer required. Please type approver name and enter date of approval.

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| Dr. Mark Foster  | 10/2/2020 |

**Department Curriculum Committee Chair** |

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**COPE Chair (if applicable)** |
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| Dr. Mark Foster  | 10/2/2020 |

**Department Chair** |

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**Head of Unit (if applicable)**   |
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| Shanon Brantley | 10/2/2020 |

**College Curriculum Committee Chair** |

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**Undergraduate Curriculum Council Chair** |
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| Susan Hanrahan | 10/2/2020 |

**College Dean** |

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**Graduate Curriculum Committee Chair** |
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**General Education Committee Chair (if applicable)**   |

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**Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs** |

1. **Contact Person** (Name, Email Address, Phone Number)

Name: Lark E. Montgomery, Assistant Professor of Nursing for the College of Nursing and Health Professions

Name of Institution: Arkansas State University- Jonesboro

Address: College of Nursing and Health Professions

 P.O. BOX 910

 State University, AR 72467

E-mail Address: lmontgomery@astate.edu

Phone Number: Office 870-972-2668/ Cell 870-761-6731

1. **Name of proposed Certificate Program (Program must consist of 6-21 semester credit hours):**

 Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

1. **Proposed effective date:**

Summer 2021 (5/2021)

1. **Reason for proposed program implementation:**

According to the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN), Acute Care Nurse Practitioners are educated, certified, and licensed to care for those individuals who are physiologically unstable, technologically dependent, critically ill, have rapidly changing conditions or have an illness which is chronically complex. Due to the rapidly changing healthcare environment and increased complexity of patient needs Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners are needed in a variety of health care environments, including: hospitals, outpatient rehabilitation facilities, nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, and specialty/ subspecialty clinics.

 The Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Post Masters Certificate Program would be offered as an option in the Masters of Science in Nursing for existing Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) wishing to pursue an additional certification. Existing APRNs would be educated and trained to practice in an additional practice setting and/or treat an additional population of patients. It would prepare students with complex practical and theoretical skills needed to become an expert clinician, provide quality care, and improve patient outcomes. Our graduates would be able to fill current voids in health care settings across the region as well as on a state or national level.

 In 2019 a survey was sent to recent Arkansas State University graduates from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program and existing advanced practice nurses with an alternate certification in an attempt to assess current interest in an Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program. Respondents were asked significant interest questions to identify program need. Comments were also requested for additional feedback. When asked “would you be interested in a Nurse Practitioner Program to complete your MSN or Post Masters certificate in the area of Adult-Gerontology Acute Care?” approximately 52% of respondents noted they were “very interested” and 24% responded “somewhat interested”. When asked “when would you intend to pursue this Degree/Post Master’s certificate?” Approximately 36% of respondents noted they planned to enroll in an Acute Care nurse practitioner program within 1 year, 28% within 2-3 years, and 12% in five years or greater. Additional comments from respondents reflecting student interest include:

* *I am ready to apply*
* *Less than one year!*
* *The only thing that would excite me more would be a dual program.*
* *I can’t wait to hear more about the program.*
* *Great idea/plan*
1. **Provide the following:**
	* 1. **Curriculum outline - List of courses in new program – Underline required courses**

NURS 6213 AG ACNP Seminar I

NURS 6214 AG ACNP Practicum I

NURS 6363 AG ACNP Seminar II

NURS 6364 AG ACNP Practicum II

NURS 6483 AG ACNP Seminar III

NURS 6484 AG ACNP Practicum III

* + 1. **Total semester credit hours required for proposed program**

 Total credit hours for Program: 21 credits

 Minimum Clinical Clock Hours: 720

* + 1. **New courses and new course descriptions**

The following courses, which will also make up the AGACNP Post Masters Certificate program, were previously approved by Arkansas State University Graduate Council during the 2019-2020 academic school year.

NURS 6213 AG ACNP Seminar I

Provide research based theoretical and clinical foundation for specialization of AG ACNP. Content includes diagnostic reasoning and management of complex acute and chronic health problems for adult and geriatric population.

NURS 6214 AG ACNP Practicum I

Clinical application of theoretical basis for management of complex adult and geriatric clients with chronic, acute, and critical illnesses. Prepare students to interpret diagnostic tests as well as performance and management of therapeutic and technologic interventions.

NURS 6363 AG ACNP Seminar II

Expansion of research based theoretical and clinical foundation for specialization of AG ACNP. Focus and health promotion and maintenance from adolescence to older adult. Emphasis on deliverance of high quality healthcare and patient outcomes.

NURS 6364 AG ACNP Practicum II

Clinical application of theory for management of complex adult and geriatric clients with chronic, acute, and critical illnesses in a variety of health care settings. Emphasis on patient assessment and prioritization of treatments and interventions from hospital admission to discharge.

NURS 6483 AG ACNP Seminar III

Focuses on research based complex care for specialization of Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. Particular attention given to health care economics, palliative or end of life care, emergency therapeutics, and disaster management strategies.

NURS 6484 AG ACNP Practicum III

Further clinical application of theoretical basis for management of complex adult and geriatric clients with chronic, acute, and critical illnesses in a variety of health care settings. Practicum experience in specialized areas of advanced practice.

* + 1. **Program goals and objectives**
1. Synthesize theories and concepts from nursing the arts, humanities, sciences, and evidence-based practice to guide clinical judgement in nursing practice.
2. Develop person-centered care while respecting diversity and the unique determinants of individuals and populations.
3. Assume leadership and collaborative roles in the planning, providing, and managing of services to influence policy for individuals, families, and populations.
4. Demonstrate authentic leadership within complex health systems to improve safe, cost effective, and quality health care for diverse populations.
5. Demonstrate professionalism in nursing practice through accountability to ethical and legal standards.
6. Employ critical inquiry to advance the discipline and profession of nursing.
7. Utilize information systems and technology to evaluate programs of care, outcomes of care and care systems.
	* 1. **Expected student learning outcomes**

NURS 6213 AG ACNP Seminar I

1. Integrate diagnostic reasoning principles in development of differential diagnosis in the adult acute care setting. (MPO I)
2. Analyzes strengths and barriers of technological and information systems with the goal of improving care delivery and coordination. (MPO VII)
3. Analyzes the data capture methods in clinical information systems to promote effective care for the adult-gerontology population. (MPO VII)
4. Analyzes system barriers to acute care delivery and coordination. (MPO I, III, IV)
5. Applies knowledge of the types and level of services provided across complex health care and residential settings. (MPO III)
6. Promotes the delivery of evidence-based care for patient with complex acute, critical, and chronic physical and mental illness. (MPO I)
7. Employs interventions to support the patient to regain and maintain age-specific physiologic and psychological stability consistent with the patient’s goals of care. (MPO I, II, IV)
8. Demonstrate critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning skills in clinical decision making. (MPO I)
9. Evaluate research literature from nursing and related disciplines in determining appropriate therapeutic interventions for clients and client populations. (MPO I)

NURS 6214 AG ACNP Practicum I

1. Synthesizes data from a variety of sources, including clinical decision support technology, to make clinical decisions regarding appropriate management, consultation or referral for acutely and critically ill patients. (MPO I, II)
2. Develop appropriate differential diagnoses for clients with acute health care problems. (MPO I)
3. Employ appropriate diagnostics and therapeutic interventions. (MPO I, II)
4. Prescribes medications maintaining awareness of and monitoring for adverse drug outcomes and complex medical regimens, especially in high risk and vulnerable populations. (MPO I, II)
5. Coordinates health care services for patients with acute, critical, and complex illnesses. (MPO III, IV)
6. Coordinates comprehensive care in and across care settings for patient who have acute and chronic illnesses. (MPO III, IV)
7. Provides leadership to facilitate the highly complex coordination and planning required for the delivery of care to young adults (including late adolescents), adults, and older adults. (MPO II, III)
8. Uses devices and technology to improve outcomes for acutely, critically, and chronically ill patients. (MPO VII)
9. Applies advanced communication skills and processes to collaborate with caregivers and professionals to optimize health care outcomes for adults with acute, critical, or complex chronic illnesses. (MPO III, IV)
10. Collaborates with intraprofessional and interprofessional team and informal caregivers to achieve optimal patient outcomes during acute, critical and/or complex chronic illness. (MPO III)

NURS 6363 AG ACNP Seminar II

1. Uses scientific knowledge and theoretical foundations to differentiate between normal and abnormal changes in physiological, psychological, and sociological development and aging. (MPO I)
2. Contributes to knowledge development and improved care of the adult-gerontology population. (MPO II)
3. Promotes health and protection from disease and environmental factors by assessing risks associated with care of acute, critical, and complex chronically-ill patients. (MPO II, IV)
4. Evaluated risk-benefit ratio for adverse outcomes due to acute care treatment, including under or over treatment. (MPO V)
5. Identifies the presence of co-morbidities and the potential for rapid physiologic and mental health deterioration or life-threatening instability and risk for iatrogenesis. (MPO I, IV)
6. Prioritizes diagnoses during rapid physiologic and mental health deterioration or life threatening instability. (MPO I)
7. Develops strategies to reduce the impact of ageism, racism/ethnocentrism and sexism on health care policies and systems. (MPO II)

NURS 6364 AG ACNP Practicum II

1. Implements evidenced-based practice interventions to promote safety and risk reduction for young adults, adults, and older adults with acute, critical, and complex chronic illness needs. (MPO I, II)
2. Determines the need for transition to a different level of acute care or care environment based on an assessment of an individual’s acuity, fragility, stability, resources, and need for assistance and supervision or monitoring. (MPO III)
3. Incorporate ethical, legal, and professional standards into clinical practice. (MPO V)
4. Demonstrates sensitivity to diverse organizational cultures and populations. (MPO II)
5. Evaluates the effects of therapies. (MPO I)
6. Collaborates with the individual, family, and caregivers in the development of educational interventions appropriate to the complex acute, critical, and chronically-ill patient’s needs, values, developmental and cognitive level and health literacy. (MPO II)
7. Evaluated evidence-based research literature from nursing and related literature for decision-making in clinical interventions (MPO I).

NURS 6483 AG ACNP Seminar III

1. Describes challenges to optimal complex care created by the competing priorities of patients, payers, providers, and suppliers. (MPO IV)
2. Identifies processes, principles and regulations related to payer systems used in the planning and delivery of complex health care services. (MPO VII )
3. Uses pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic management strategies to ameliorate physical and behavioral symptoms in individuals who has mental health and substance misuse disorders. (MPO I, II)
4. Diagnoses common behavioral and mental health and substance use or addictive disorder/disease, in the context of complex acute, critical, and chronic illness. (MPO I, II)
5. Manages geriatric syndromes and changing conditions using evidenced base practice guidelines. (MPO I, II)
6. Implements interventions to support the patient with a rapidly deteriorating physiologic condition based on Advanced Care Life Support and Fundamentals of Critical Care Support. (MPO I, II, IV)

NURS 6484 AG ACNP Practicum III

1. Functions within the national, state, and institutional credentialing and scope of practice for AG ACNPs based upon education, certification, and licensure criteria. (MPO V)
2. Performs diagnostic and therapeutic interventions including, but not limited to” interpretation of EKG and imaging studies, respiratory support, hemodynamic monitoring, line and tube insertion. (MPO I)
3. Employs treatment and therapeutic devices as indicated, including, not limited to: oxygen, noninvasive and invasive mechanical ventilation, circulatory support. (MPO I)
4. Initiates discussion of sensitive issues, such as advanced directives and end-of-life decisions, with the individual, family and other caregivers. (MPO II, III, V)
5. Facilitates patient and family decision making regarding complex acute, critical, and chronic illness treatment decisions. (MPO II)
6. Independently manages complex acute, critical, and chronically-ill adult and older adult patients at risk for urgent and emergent conditions, using both physiologic instability and risk for potential life threatening conditions. (MPO I)
7. Facilitates patient and family navigation of complex health care systems. (MPO II)
8. Educates individuals, families, caregivers, and groups regarding strategies to manage the interaction among normal development, aging, and mental and physical disorders. (MPO II, III)
9. Critique evidence-based research in nursing and related disciplines as a basis for application to advanced nursing practice. (MPO VI)
	* 1. **Documentation that program meets employer needs**

 Letters of support have been obtained from the major health care systems in Northeast Arkansas. St. Bernard’s Medical Center is currently the largest healthcare provider, with Northeast Arkansas Baptist Healthcare System rapidly growing into a comparable healthcare system locally, a branch of the larger Baptist Healthcare System located in Memphis, TN. Due to the rapidly changing healthcare environment, there will be an increase in the demand for nurse practitioners with in acute care and specialty clinical settings.

\*\*\*Please see the attached letters at the end of this document.

* + 1. **Student demand (projected enrollment) for proposed program**

 In 2019 a survey was sent to recent Arkansas State University graduates from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program and existing nurse practitioners with an alternate certification in an attempt to assess current interest in an Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program. Respondents were asked significant interest questions to identify program need. Comments were also requested for additional feedback. When asked “would you be interested in a Nurse Practitioner Program to complete your MSN or Post Master’s certificate in the area of Adult-Gerontology Acute Care?” approximately 52% of respondents noted they were “very interested” and 24% responded “somewhat interested”. When asked “when would you intend to pursue this Degree/Post Master’s certificate?” Approximately 36% of respondents noted they planned to enroll in an Acute Care nurse practitioner program within 1 year, 28% within 2-3 years, and 12% in five years or greater. Additional comments from respondents reflecting student interest include:

* *I am ready to apply*
* *Less than one year!*
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* *I can’t wait to hear more about the program.*
* *Great idea/plan*

 The Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program has admitted three students to the fall 2020 cohort with plans for admitting approximately 10-15 Post Masters Certificate students. These students will join in the summer of 2021 with the start of the programs specialty courses.

* + 1. **Program approval letter from licensure/certification entity, if required (attach) NA**
		2. **Name of institutions offering similar programs and the institution(s) used as model to develop proposed program**

The table below should serve as a comparison chart for similar institutions used as models to assist with development of this program option.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of University | **ASU-J** | **UAMS** | **U of A** | **UTHSC** |
| MSN vs. DNP  | MSN | DNP only  | DNP only  | DNP only  |
| Full vs. Part Time Option | Full time option only  | Full Time | Part Time | Full or Part time study available |
| Total Credit Hours of Program | 41 (BSN-MSN) | 68-69 (BSN-DNP) | 78 credits | 59 (BSN-DNP) |
| Total Program Length | 5 semesters2 years | 8 semesters 3 years | 12 semesters4 years | Varies depending on full/part time study |
| Clinical Practicum Hours Required | 720 | 1080 | 1035 | 1020 |
| Online Delivery | Hybrid format | Hybrid Format | Online | Primarily Online with scheduled campus visits throughout the program |

Below is a list of Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Programs in neighboring states.

Arkansas

-University of Arkansas

-University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Missouri

-Graceland University

-Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes Jewish College

-Maryville University- Saint Louis

-St. Louis University

-Saint Luke’s College of Health Sciences

Tennessee

-East Tennessee State University

-University of Tennessee Chattanooga

-University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center

-Vanderbilt University

Texas

-Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

-Texas Woman’s University

-University of Texas Health Science Center- San Antonio

-University of Texas Medical Branch

-University of Texas- Arlington

-University of Texas- El Paso

* + 1. **Proposed program review date (within 10 years of program implementation) Fall 2021**
1. **Will this program be offered:**
	1. **Traditional/Face-to-face** Hybrid Format
	2. **Distance/Online** On campus instruction with online/web assisted
		1. **If yes, indicate mode of distance delivery, and the percentage of courses offered via this modality (<50%, 50-99%, or 100%).**

All courses will be web supported with on campus classes at the beginning and additional times as noted throughout the semester.

* + 1. **If online, will it be offered through Global Initiatives/Academic Partnerships (AP)?**

N/A

1. **Will this program be offered off-campus?**  No

**If yes, identify the off-campus location** N/A

**Bulletin Changes**

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| **Instructions**  |
| **Please visit** [**http://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/index.dot**](http://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/index.dot) **and select the most recent version of the bulletin. Copy and paste all bulletin pages this proposal affects below. Please include a before (with changed areas highlighted) and after of all affected sections.** **\*Please note: Courses are often listed in multiple sections of the bulletin. To ensure that all affected sections have been located, please search the bulletin (ctrl+F) for the appropriate courses before submission of this form.**  |

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* College of Nursing and Health Professions

The College of Nursing and Health Professions offers a number of graduate level programs: the Master of Athletic Training (M.A.T.), the Master of Communication Disorders (M.C.D.), the Master of Science in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (M.S.), the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.), the Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N. with Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Administrator, and Nurse Educator options), the Master of Science in Nursing in Nurse Anesthesia (M.S.N.), the Graduate Certificate in Family Nurse Practitioner, the Graduate Certificate of Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, the Graduate Certificate in Nurse Administration, the Graduate Certificate in Nurse Educator, the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (O.T.D.), the Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.), the Master of Social Work (M.S.W.), and the Graduate Certificate in Addiction Studies.

* Add after page 247
* Graduate Certificate in Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

Graduate Certificate in Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner is available to RNs who have recent clinical experience and have completed a MSN with advanced preparation in another specialty area from an accredited institution. Graduates of a MSN program with a AGACNP option that did not include the required certification eligibility requirements from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) and/or the American Associated of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) (Advanced Physiology/Pathophysiology; Advanced Health Assessment, including diagnostics and disease management; Advanced Pharmacology; and/or minimum of 500 faculty supervised clinical hours) are also eligible to apply. A request for a curriculum “Gap Analysis” to determine an individual Plan of Study will be requested from the Program Coordinator prior to admission.

Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

Graduate Certificate

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **University Requirements** |  |
| See Graduate Degree Policies for additional information (p. 40) |  |
| **Requirements**  | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| NURS 6003, Advanced Clinical Physiology | 3 |
| NURS 6013, Advanced Clinical Pharmacology | 3 |
| NURS 6023, Advanced Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation | 3 |
| **Sub-total** | **9** |
| **Advanced Practice Courses:**  | **Sem. Hrs.**  |
| ***NURS 6213, AG ACNP Seminar I*** | 3 |
| ***NURS 6214, AG ACNP Practicum I*** | 4 |
| ***NURS 6363, AG ACNP Seminar II*** | 3 |
| ***NURS 6364, AG ACNP Practicum II*** | 4 |
| ***NURS 6483, AG ACNP Seminar III*** | 3 |
| ***NURS 6484, AG ACNP Practicum III*** | 4 |
| **Sub-total** | **21** |
| **Total Required Hours:**  | **21-30** |



