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**Rhode Island College School of Nursing**

**Nursing Care Management (NCM) Graduate Certificate Program**

**NCM Program** **Overview:**

The NCM Graduate Certificate Program is a 15-credit graduate nursing program consisting of five courses taught in the evenings, most using a hybrid course design that blends in-person with online learning.

* + Students take courses with other nurses studying for advanced practice roles; such as population health nurses, clinical nurse specialists, nurse anesthetists, and nurse practitioners.
  + Nursing Care Managers who want to earn a Master’s of Science in Nursing degree may transfer credits from the five courses into the MSN Population/Public Health Program.

**NCM Program Course Descriptions:**

1. NURS 518 - Nursing Care Management Course: Students examine best practices for the coordination of comprehensive services to populations across the continuum of health care systems. Care management processes are explored that enhance a client-centered, inter-disciplinary approach to evidence-based practice, outcomes-based quality improvement, and cost containment. The course is offered on Thursday evenings from 4 to 7 PM in the fall.
2. NURS 502 - Healthcare Systems Course: Students analyze organizational structure, resources, current technology, informational systems, outcome measures, safety initiatives, health care policy and ethics. The patient’s central role in health care decision-making is examined. The course is offered on Monday evenings in the fall and at varying times in the spring.
3. NURS 503 - Professional Role Development Course: Students clarify advanced practice nursing roles and examine behaviors to promote change and collaboration in practice environments; including concepts of leadership, communication, power, and problem solving. The course is offered on Thursday evenings from 4 to 7 PM in the spring and at varying times in the summer.
4. NURS 507 - Epidemiology Course: The focus is on the causes, frequencies, and distribution of diseases and health issues in various populations. The methods of epidemiology allow the student to collect, tabulate, analyze and interpret statistical facts about the occurrence of health problems, risk factors, disease and deaths in a community. The course is offered on Wednesday evenings from 4 to 7 PM in the spring.
5. NURS 508 - Public Health Science Course: The historical development and concepts of public health practice are examined. Students gain an understanding of the tools used for public health practice including research, epidemiology and policy development. Public health substantive areas such as environmental health, occupational health, bio-terrorism and disaster preparedness, prevention and control of disease and injury, vulnerable populations and global health issues are analyzed. The course is offered on Tuesday evenings from 4 to 7 PM in the fall.

**For further information, please contact Jeanne Schwager, PhD, RN, APHN-BC, Coordinator of**

**the Population/Public Health Nursing Graduate Program at** [**jschwager@ric.edu**](mailto:jschwager@ric.edu)