

Clinical Nurse Leader

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

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Find Your Inspiration

Dominican University of California's Master of Science in Nursing: Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) program prepares professional nurses as advanced generalists in the delivery of health care. The highly integrated program focuses on evaluating client care, facilitating collaboration between professional team members, and providing evidence-based practice to improve patient safety and health outcomes. Inclusion and respect for all clients is emphasized, acknowledging cultural diversity and fostering an appreciation for traditional, complementary, and alternative approaches to health care across the life span. Nurses remain clinically focused while advancing their careers and improving outcomes for patients in all areas of practice.

Imagine Career Possibilities

Graduates of the Dominican CNL program direct patient care and serve as positive change agents in a variety of health care settings. Clinical Nurse Leaders play a pivotal role in the nursing workforce, serving as role models, providing leadership, and improving health care outcomes across the continuum of care.

Graduates are highly respected members of their professional community, known for their leadership, clinical expertise, and caring. CNL graduates are prepared to work as patient care facilitators, case managers, and resource nurses in their chosen specialty.

Envision the Process

The CNL curriculum is based on the national model proposed by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and builds upon nursing knowledge and work experience. The curriculum focuses on nursing leadership, clinical outcomes management, and care environment management.

The master's portion of the program includes 32 units and 400 clinical hours. The on-campus program meets on alternating weekends, Friday night and all day Saturday. The program does not meet during the summer. Off-site program schedules may vary. Our highest priority is providing students with a supportive and healthy learning environment. We help you to succeed.

The Associate Degree to Masters program requires an additional 16 units of bridgework. This bridgework may be transferred in or completed at Dominican.

Features of the program include:

- Highly trained and supportive clinical faculty.
- Small, individualized classes and seminars.

- A collaborative learning environment focused on finding ways to deliver quality care to patients and families.
- Participation in 400 hours of clinical experience developing and implementing the CNL role.
- Exposure to new knowledge and skills as the CNL role, needs of patients, and the health care system evolve.

Achieve Success

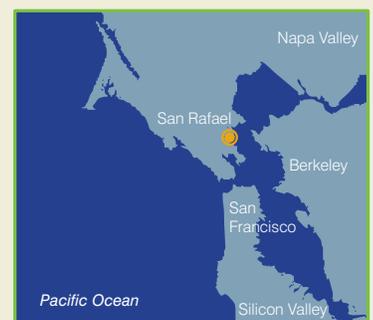
The roles of the CNL include:

- Leadership in the care of the sick in and across all environments.
 - Design and provision of health promotion and risk reduction services for diverse populations.
 - Provision of evidence-based practice.
 - Population-appropriate health care to individuals, clinical groups/units, and communities.
 - Clinical decision-making.
 - Design and implementation of plans of care.
 - Risk anticipation.
 - Participation in identification and collection of care outcomes.
 - Accountability for evaluation and improvement of point-of-care outcomes.
 - Mass customization of care.
 - Client and community advocacy.
 - Delegation and oversight of care delivery and outcomes.
 - Team management and collaboration with other health professional team members.
 - Development and leveraging of human, environmental, and material resources.
 - Management and use of client-care and information technology.
 - Lateral integration of care for a specified group of patients.
- (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2007, p. 10-11)

Easy Access

Dominican University of California is conveniently located near the 101 freeway in central San Rafael and is easily reached by car or public transportation. Our beautiful campus is 12 miles north of San Francisco and just a short drive from Napa or the East Bay. Public transportation is readily accessible — the Larkspur Ferry Terminal is within three miles and the Golden Gate Bus Terminal is a mile from campus.

When driving on Highway 101, take the Central San Rafael exit, turn east on Mission Avenue, then left on Grand Avenue to Acacia Avenue (about one mile). Free parking is available at the University parking area at the corner of Grand and Acacia.



MSN Clinical Nurse Leader

Dominican University of California values self-care and reflection and emphasizes inclusion and respect for all. Our MSN Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) program provides a curriculum and an educational approach consistent with these values: Our students are motivated, supported and inspired to learn.

Graduates of our world-class, accredited program are prepared to serve as nurse leaders and positive agents for change in any health care setting, and are taught to assume accountability for health care outcomes across the continuum of care.

Our faculty, staff and students are optimistic about the possibility of effecting change in health care systems. We are committed to improving health care outcomes and, at the end of the program, you will be prepared to assume a leadership role in your selected clinical environment.

Download the MSN Clinical Nurse Leader brochure (pdf) to learn more about our program.

The Roles of the CNL

- Leadership in the care of the sick in and across various health care environments
- Design and provision of health promotion and risk-reduction services for diverse populations
- Provision of evidence-based practice
- Population-appropriate health care to individuals, clinical groups/units, and communities
- Clinical decision-making and risk anticipation
- Design and implementation of plans of care
- Identification and collection of care outcomes
- Responsibility for evaluation and improvement of point-of-care outcomes
- Client and community advocacy
- Delegation and oversight of care delivery and outcomes
- Team management and collaboration with other health professionals
- Development and leveraging of human, environmental, and material resources
- Management and use of client-care and information technology
- Lateral integration of care for a specified group of patients

Program Features

- Convenient: Dominican is located in San Rafael, California, 12 miles north of San Francisco
- Flexible: Classes meet once a week on a weekday
- Innovative: Students become change agents in the way health care is delivered
- Global: We offer opportunities for international clinical experiences
- Collaborative: Cohort program builds camaraderie and professional bonds and allows for one-on-one instruction and guidance
- Supportive: Faculty are doctorate prepared, supportive, and available

Explore the challenges and rewards of this degree program.

For more information, or to arrange for a visit, contact the Office of Admissions.

Toll Free: 888-323-6763 or 415-485-3280

E-mail: graduateprograms@dominican.edu

Online: www.dominican.edu/gradprograms

MSN: CNL Curriculum

The Clinical Nurse Leader program is 32 to 48 units, depending on your previous degree (Associates or Bachelor's). The on-campus program meets once a week and does not meet during the summer. Off-site program schedules vary (talk with program director). The program requires a total of 400 clinical hours.

Our curriculum includes the following coursework:

NURS 5106 Advanced Adult Assessment and Physiology (3 units)

This advanced course focuses on health and wellness and associated anatomical dimensions, including health within the context of disability; assessment criteria and techniques are examined and developed. Attention is given to both theoretical content and hands-on laboratory experiences and deals with individuals across the life span.

NURS 5108 Survey of Research (2 units)

This advanced research course reviews and critiques nursing and related discipline's research. An overview approach is taken in an examination of the research process and how it affects research and implementation of research into practice. Of major concern are ethical principles and development of best practices in a clinical setting. Development of a literature review is the end product.

BIO 5501 Epidemiology and Biostatistics (3 units)

This advanced course is an overview of population-based public and institutional health including epidemiological concepts and applications, descriptive epidemiology, and measurements of morbidity and mortality. This course focuses on measuring frequency, identifying causes, and describing patterns and occurrences of disease; investigating outbreaks of disease, assessing the utility of diagnostic tests, testing the effectiveness of treatments, predicting outcomes of illness, decision making about treatment strategies, and summarizing evidence on clinical questions. It also focuses on the role of the CNL in epidemiology.

NURS 5204 Advanced Pathophysiology/Pharmacology (4 units)

This course examines physiological systems of the human body, aging processes and related pathologies, and investigates how these changes and pathologies influence or guide nursing practice. Current insights are explored across the life span and the implications of pharmacology related to pathophysiology.

NURS 5209 Leadership and Nursing Theories (4 units)

Includes a clinical component of 50 - 100 hours. This course explores leadership and nursing theories that provide the foundation and direction for integrated nursing practice. It explores new directions and adaptations for current nursing theory, and examines how nurses can utilize these theories for their practice in a manner that provides leadership for others in integrated health practice and focuses on the role of the Clinical Nurse Leader.

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NURS 5302 Outcomes Research (2 units)

This course examines research methods used to assess and evaluate the health and health care delivery to diverse populations, as well as the efficacy of the practices themselves. Research design, ethical issues in research, research methodology, creation of a research proposal for implementing evidence-based practice and the evaluation methods for assessing the success of the programs.

NURS 5320 Health Care Economics (2 units)

This course uses a case analysis approach to the financial management of health care institutions. It incorporates quantitative analysis techniques, financial policy analysis, and costing methods. Applications of hospital and healthcare institutions financial management and decision-making are explored through lectures and case studies. The course includes: problem solving, written analysis, actual company cases and addresses ethical issues as they relate to health care organizations and prepares students for executive roles in healthcare settings.

(Pre-requisites: Statistics and Nursing Research)

NURS 5330 Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Management (4 units)

Includes a clinical component of 50 – 100 hours. This course on advanced health promotion, disease reduction, and prevention is focused on risk assessment, health literacy, and health education and practice, with a focus on combining western and non-western applications to achieve optimal outcomes. Health promotion, regimen management, caregiver stress, health behaviors, client education, and conceptions of health are examined in the context of the most common acute and chronic conditions affecting individuals across the life span.

NURS 5411 Policy/Organization of Health Care Systems (2 units)

This course provides a macro and micro view of health care policy, organization, and financing world wide and comparing international perspectives with attention to both the historical context and current political influences.

NURS 5412 (3 units) and NURS 5413 Quality and Safety Assurance and Risk Reduction (2 units)

Students synthesize the information they have gained about the roles of the Clinical Nurse Leader at the point of care to ensure quality of care, safety, and risk reduction. Examination of external and internal forces that influence patient outcomes are analyzed - looking at the system, the process, and the outcomes. These two courses focus on the client, the systems and processes, and outcomes through measurement and teamwork. Students will complete 200 to 300 clinical hours.

NURS 5704 Capstone Continuation (1 units)

Completion of capstone project.

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In addition to the bachelor's prepared RN to MSN, Dominican also now offers the fast track option of going directly from an Associate degree RN to MSN (bypassing the BSN).

Accelerated ADN/RN to MSN

The Associates to Masters accelerated degree program is designed for the nurse with an Associates degree who wants to advance quickly to the Masters level. The first year in the program is a year of bridge work, after which the student advances into the graduate program, and proceeds through the usual course work after the third semester. This program results in a Masters in Science of Nursing.

Bridge Work includes:

- ENG 3200 Advanced Writing (3 units)
- RES 2000 (1 unit)
- NURS 3001 Transitions and Leadership (3 units)
- PSY 3187 Statistics (4 units)
- NURS 4150 Community Health (5 units)

Total 16 units bridge work. At this point, the student advances to graduate studies.

Completion of both the MSN and bridgework requires 48 units.

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