

Clinical Nurse Leader

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

www.dominican.edu



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 36 units (9 units in each of 4 semesters) 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.
- Alternating Friday evening and Saturday classes, eight sessions per semester.

- 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

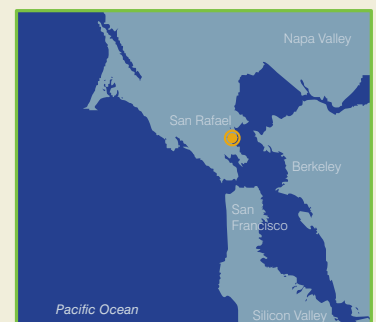
The roles of the CNL include:

- 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.





Nursing

MASTER OF SCIENCE

www.dominican.edu

Faculty

Nicole Barnett, DHSc, MBA, RN

DHSc, Nova Southeastern University
BSN/PHN, MBAL, CSU Dominguez Hills

Chris Carlucci, MD

MD, UC San Francisco
MS Health Sciences, UC Berkeley
MS Bioethics, Cambridge University
BSN, Catholic University of America

Barbara Ganley, PhD, MSN, RN

PhD, University of Arkansas Fayetteville
MSN, UC Los Angeles
BSN, CSU Los Angeles
AND, LA Valley College

Olivia Catolico, PhD, MSN, RN

PhD, University of San Diego
MSN, Loma Linda University
BSN, CSU Fresno

Sara Shain, DrPH

BA Mathematics, San Francisco State University
MA Biostatistics, DrPH Biostatistics, UC Los Angeles

June Wilson, PhD, RN

MA, PhD, Fielding Graduate University
BA (honors), York University
BA, University of Western Ontario
RN, Seneca College

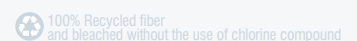
Explore the challenges and rewards of this degree program.

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

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

Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu

Online: www.dominican.edu



Program Description

A Clinical Nurse Leader assumes accountability for health care outcomes for patients at the point-of-care, using assimilation and application of evidence-based practice and empirical research to design, implement, and evaluate patient outcomes. Dominican University of California's Master of Science in Nursing, Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) program combines course work in leadership, clinical nursing, nursing and non-nursing theory, health promotion and disease prevention management, and quality assurance and risk reduction to prepare outstanding CNLs. The program also includes the core course framework of advanced adult health assessment, advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, health care economics, and epidemiology and biostatistics.

Student Learning Outcomes (AACN, 2007)

At the end of this program the graduate of the CNL program will demonstrate

1. the ability to effect change through advocacy for the profession, the interprofessional health team, and culturally diverse clients*;
2. the ability to communicate effectively to achieve quality client outcomes and lateral integration of care for a cohort of culturally diverse clients;
3. active pursuit of new knowledge and skills within the CNL role, needs of clients, and the healthcare system;
4. the ability to properly delegate and utilize the nursing team resources (human and fiscal) and to serve as the leader and partner in the interprofessional health care team;
5. the ability to identify clinical and cost outcomes that improve safety, effectiveness, timeliness, efficiency, quality, and the degree to which they are client centered;
6. the ability to use information systems and technology at the point of care to improve client outcomes;
7. participation in systems review to critically evaluate and anticipate risks to client safety to improve quality of client care delivery;
8. the ability to assume accountability for healthcare outcomes for a specific group of clients within a unit or healthcare setting, recognizing the influence of the meso- and macro-systems on the micro-system;
9. the ability to synthesize data, information, and knowledge to evaluate and achieve optimal client and care environments outcomes;
10. the ability to integrate appropriate teaching / learning principles and strategies as well as current information, materials, and technologies to facilitate the learning of clients, groups, and other healthcare professionals.

* *Culturally diverse* refers to clients of different ethnic groups, religious backgrounds, genders, and sexual preferences. Referring to the *client* assumes sensitivity for cultural diversity. *Client* may be a patient in a hospital, individual in the community, or any individual who requires nursing care.

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
Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu
Online: www.dominican.edu

MSN: CNL Curriculum

Semester 1 (Fall)

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 (3 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.

Semester 2 (Spring)

NURS 5204 Pathophysiology (3 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 and explorations occurring in the field of psychoneuroimmunology are explored across the life span.

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.

continued on back ►

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

Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu

Online: www.dominican.edu

(continued)

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.

Semester 3 (Fall)

NURS 5210 Advanced Pharmacology (3 units)

Students will explore the ethical, financial, and cultural implications of the use of traditional western, off-label, and experimental pharmaceuticals in individuals and select populations in a variety of clinical settings and across the life span.

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. (Prerequisites: 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.

Semester 4 (Spring)

NURS 5410 Quality Assurance and Risk Reduction (6 units)

Includes a Clinical Immersion Component of approximately 200 - 300 hours. Exemplifies the role of the Clinical Nurse Leader and examines internal and external forces which affect care delivery in a variety of settings within healthcare systems and organizations. Opportunity to learn strategies for team coordination, quality management, and risk reduction. This course focuses on the client, the systems and processes, measurement, and teamwork. Prerequisite NURS 5209.

NURS 5411 Policy/Organization of Health Care Systems (3 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.

This portion of the program requires a total of 400 clinical hours.

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

Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu

Online: www.dominican.edu

(continued)

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 52 units.

**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
Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu
Online: www.dominican.edu



Nursing

MASTER OF SCIENCE

www.dominican.edu

Tuition and Financial Aid Information

Tuition for the 2008-2009 academic year is \$810 per unit. Upon admission to the program, a \$200 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve a space. Deposits are required of all new students before registration and are not additional fees.

**Tuition and fees are subject to change at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.*

Financial Aid

To apply for financial aid each student must annually complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The online FAFSA is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Financial aid eligibility is determined through information the applicant provides on the FAFSA and the applicant must also provide any other documents as requested by the Dominican Financial Aid Office. A financial aid award notification letter is only sent to admitted students who have provided all required documents.

Grants

Dominican grants are available to graduate students who qualify based on financial need as determined through the FAFSA. Grants are awarded per academic year and recipients must be enrolled in 9 units each semester.

Scholarships

A limited number of scholarships are available to graduate students at the discretion of the faculty program director and in coordination with other forms of financial aid. Scholarships are awarded per academic year and recipients must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 units each semester.

Student Loans

United States citizens and permanent residents enrolled at least half time (6 units) in a graduate program are eligible to apply for low-interest federal student loans. Students are considered for subsidized and unsubsidized student loans, and may also apply for a credit based GRAD PLUS loan as an additional resource.

continued on back ►

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 415-485-3204
Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu
Online: www.dominican.edu

(continued)

Steps to Enrollment

1. Complete graduate application

- Complete the application online at www.dominican.edu and the \$40 application fee is waived.

or

- Complete the printed graduate admission application and mail it along with a \$40 check. Please make checks payable to Dominican University of California, to:
Office of Admissions
Dominican University of California
50 Acacia Avenue
San Rafael, California 94901

2. Send official transcripts.

A separate official transcript from every college/university attended must be sent to the Office of Admissions in a sealed envelope.

3. Submit remaining program specific admission documents.

4. Apply for financial aid online.

Visit www.dominican.edu/admissions/aid/howapply

Complete and submit the online Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA)

Financial aid notification letters will be sent only to admitted students who have submitted all required documents.

Admitted Students

5. Sign and return the financial aid award letter to the Financial Aid Office at Dominican.

6. Reserve space in the program by submitting the tuition deposit.

The letter of admission provides details on how to reserve a space in the program. Payment is by check or contact the Office of Admissions at 415-485-3280 to pay by credit card.

7. Contact faculty program director to schedule an advising and registration appointment.

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 415-485-3204

Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu

Online: www.dominican.edu