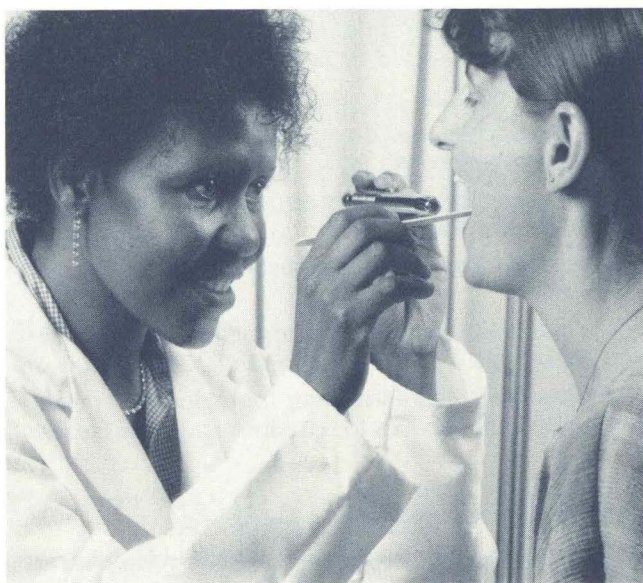


The University of Iowa

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# CLINICAL NURSING SPECIALIZATION

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COLLEGE OF NURSING

College of Nursing master's students select clinical specialization in child health, adult health, gerontological, or community/family health nursing.

## CHILD HEALTH NURSING

The child health nursing specialization prepares graduates for leadership positions in settings that serve children. It emphasizes both health promotion and response to illness and includes a pediatric nurse practitioner option, which prepares students to write the national certification examination for the PNP. Master's students specializing in child health nursing learn to:

- Analyze factors that affect children's health and development and combine knowledge from nursing and related professions on how families are affected by their children's health
- Influence child health care standards and practice
- Synthesize concepts and theories in child health nursing and use them to promote growth for the child and family
- Plan, implement, and evaluate nursing interventions to improve children's health status
- Apply research findings to approaches in caring for children and their families
- Engage in creative communication methods with children in a variety of settings
- Collaborate with others who care for children to promote optimum health care services for children and their families

### Courses

96:222 Nursing of Children: Health Promotion	4 s.h.
96:223 Nursing of Children: Responses to Illness	4 s.h.

## ADULT HEALTH NURSING

The adult nursing specialization builds on knowledge, skills, and attitudes learned in the baccalaureate program. A scholarly approach is used in the study and practice of nursing, while an inductive approach is used to study patient behavior. Data are carefully scrutinized, documented, and synthesized to develop and test hypotheses. Deliberative decision making is emphasized.

Students apply the scientific method to formulate concepts. They develop a body of knowledge related to adults and one related to nursing interventions. They are expected to:

- Develop a clinical concept derived from patient data
- Develop a nursing intervention concept congruent with the development of a clinical concept
- Apply the inductive process in caring for adult clients through deliberative interventions and scientific methods

### Courses

96:226 Nursing of Adults: Health Promotion	4 s.h.
96:227 Nursing of Adults: Responses to Illness	4 s.h.

# GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING

This area focuses on biological and pathological changes associated with aging and reviews factors that affect the mental status and psychological health of older people. Students focus on biological processes and how they interfere with independent living. Students learn to:

- Manage clinical problems common to the elderly
- Establish nursing diagnoses for biological problems of elderly clients
- Design, implement, and evaluate interventions to prevent or manage actual or potential biological problem areas
- Perform a comprehensive mental health evaluation and make appropriate referrals
- Apply and evaluate instruments used for psychosocial assessment of cognitive abilities, self-care, caregiver burden, and functional and behavioral assessment
- Assess issues and how they relate to diagnosis and to clinical, legal, research, and public policy applications
- Explore, critique and expand the relationship between DSMIII diagnostic criteria and nursing diagnosis in the psychosocial realm

## Courses

96:230 Gerontological Nursing I	4 s.h.
96:231 Gerontological Nursing II	4 s.h.

# COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH NURSING

The community/family health specialization prepares nurses for advanced work with individuals and families in community settings with emphasis on health promotion and response to illness. It provides training consistent with the ANA definition of community health:

“Community health nursing is a synthesis of nursing practice and public health practice applied to promoting and preserving the health of populations. The nature of this practice is general and comprehensive. It is not limited to a particular age or diagnostic group. It is continuing, not episodic. The dominant responsibility is to the population as a whole. Therefore, nursing directed to individuals, families or groups contributes to the health of the total population. Health promotion, health maintenance, health education, coordination and continuity of care are utilized in a holistic approach to the family, group, and community. The nurse’s actions acknowledge the need for comprehensive health planning, recognize the influences of social and ecological issues, give attention to populations at risk, and use the dynamic forces which influence change.” (ANA, *Standards of Community Health Nursing Practice*, 1973)

## Courses

96:234 Community/Family Health Nursing: Health Promotion	4 s.h.
96:235 Community/Family Health Nursing: Client Responses to Illness	4 s.h.

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