

### **Curriculum Plan: Combined BSN/MSN Track for Foreign-Educated Physicians (FEPs)**

The Combined BSN/MSN for FEPs curriculum is an accelerated track of 105-109 credits for students with a foreign medical degree who seek to become registered nurses or advanced practice nurses. The curriculum builds upon the knowledge and skills of the biological and social sciences (from BS equivalent medical degree) plus prior experiences in health care. The applicant must satisfy English competencies, general education requirements and nursing prerequisites, such as sciences taken in medical school, statistics, human growth and development, and nutrition, to be awarded 60 credits toward the initial BSN plan of study. Courses are offered in the evenings, and clinical experiences for the BSN component are scheduled on weekends, allowing these students to maintain employment to support their families.

The Combined BSN/MSN for FEPs track combines coursework from the BSN and MSN programs in an eight (8) semester program that meets professional nursing standards and guidelines (CCNE, NTF, FBON) for the awarding of a BSN and MSN degree, and eligibility for national and state certification for nurse practitioners. The track includes MSN courses within the BSN component that build upon previous knowledge in pathophysiology (*NGR 5141 Pathophysiologic Basis for ANP*), pharmacology (*NGR 6172 Pharmacological Concepts in ANP*), and theory (*NGR 5110 Theories in Nursing*). It provides for a BSN stop-out option in 5<sup>th</sup> semester for those who attain less than a 3.2 cumulative GPA in first four semesters as well as a BSN stop-out option in 6<sup>th</sup> semester for those not passing NCLEX-RN the first time in the 5<sup>th</sup> semester. In addition, the track provides an opportunity for students to become future clinical nurse educators by completing two (2) of six (6) nursing education courses toward a certificate in nursing education.