Thank you for your willingness to be a preceptor in our Psychiatric/Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist/Nurse Practitioner (PMHCNS/NP) program. The purpose of this page is to provide you with an overview of the clinical rotations in our program and to orient you to your responsibilities as a clinical preceptor. For more information about the program, please visit http://nursing.unc.edu/degree/msn/pmh.html (link provided here). You may also contact Victoria Soltis-Jarrett, the PMHCNS/NP program coordinator at vsoltis@email.unc.edu.

**NURS 727 ADVANCED DIAGNOSTIC PROCESS IN PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH NURSING**
This is the first course for students in the PMHCNS/NP plan of study. Students enter the course with different learning needs and experiences; therefore, this graduate course is structured to:
(a) assess the student's baseline level of competency in the areas of assessment- psychiatric interviewing and diagnostic reasoning using the DSM-IV-TR and lifespan concepts; (b) develop a plan of learning that builds upon their current clinical skills- strengths and limitations using an emancipatory pedagogy; and (c) introduce all students to the role and competencies of the PMHCNS/NP and how it differs from other NP roles. For the clinical portion of this course, students spend 120 hours in clinical sites. In addition, students also have an opportunity to learn using simulated patients which are videotaped so that they are able to assess their own learning needs at various times throughout the program.

**NURS 860 PSYCHIATRIC NURSING INTERVENTIONS WITH INDIVIDUALS**
This is the second course for students in the first year of the PMHCNS/NP plan of study and the aim of this course is to build upon the structured learning objectives from N727 (and ongoing clinical competencies of the PMHCNS/NP). Students in this course will focus on theories, techniques and research related to planning and implementing therapeutic interventions (i.e. individual psychotherapy) with adolescents, adults and individuals in late life. Students will also continue to develop their assessment and diagnostic reasoning skills with an added focus on the strategies for screening common medical problems that may be co-morbid or may surface during treatment with the PMHCNS/NP. Students are introduced to the competency of differential diagnoses and when to refer to specialist colleagues. (This course is taken concurrently with the lifespan psychopharmacology course). For the clinical portion of this course, students spend 120 hours at clinical site. The notion of teamwork and collaboration as a member of the interdisciplinary mental health will be introduced.

**N865 PSYCHIATRIC NURSING INTERVENTIONS WITH CHILDREN (Formally APPLICATION OF PLAY THERAPY IN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING)**
This course ensures that lifespan concepts and interventions are included for children under the age of 13. The course provides the primary intervention of Play Therapy with the option to seek other modalities of intervention for children including medication management. This course does not have specific clinical hours but provides the opportunity for students to begin to work with children and families in the second year using these strategies and techniques.

**NURS 864 PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL NURSING INTERVENTIONS: FAMILIES AND GROUPS**
This is the first course in the second year of the PMHCNS/NP student's plan of study. In this course, students will analyze theories, techniques and research relevant to therapy with groups and families experiencing mental health problems across the lifespan. Focus will also include the notion of team building skills and collaboration as a member of the interdisciplinary health care system will be emphasized as an essential competency. For the clinical portion of this course, students spend 120 hours in clinical sites. Students should be able to complete a diagnostic assessment including differential
diagnoses and have beginning skills in individual therapy (including individuals from childhood through late life).

NURS 863 PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH NURSING FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS
NURS 869 PRACTICUM IN PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES

Both N863 and N869 run concurrently and together are the FINAL clinical courses in the PMHCNS/NP plan of study. Both courses utilize epidemiology, psychoeducation, case management and health policy to address complex clinical problems with individuals, families and populations across the lifespan. Students will also examine the scope of mental health problems and services for underserved populations while integrating the lifespan concepts and PMHCNS/NP beginning competencies. Students will be able to apply knowledge and skill in selected domains of the advanced practice of psychiatric-mental health nursing using the PMHCNS/NP competencies. Supervision, peer evaluation and independent readings will enhance the experience. Opportunities will be made for students to use simulated patients as a means to assess their level of competency as a PMHCNS/NP and compare it with their initial videotape in N727. For the clinical portion of this course, students will spend 240 hours in clinical settings and will complete the program of study with an ability to be culturally sensitive and have beginning clinical proficiency as a PMHNP.