


**Innovation in NP Education:
A DNP Rural Health Track**

NONPF 39th Annual Meeting
Bridging Innovation Across NP Education
April 11-14, 2013 Pittsburgh, PA

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Learner Objectives:
**examine the essential elements of a
unique rural health track option for
Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
advanced practice registered nurses.**

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**Purpose of the OHSU
RURAL HEALTH TRACK (RHT)**

- ✓ **Focuses on improving rural health care delivery statewide**
- ✓ **Designed to prepare expert rural advanced practice nurse leaders to improve health and health care outcomes in rural communities**
- ✓ **Develop clinicians to address the unique health needs of Oregon's rural and frontier populations**



RURAL HEALTH TRACK: BACKGROUND


- Available for 2 APRN-DNP Programs:
 - ✓ Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
 - ✓ Psychiatric Mental Health (PMHNP)
- Consists of rural-focused coursework and clinical experiences
- Interprofessional Collaborative Learning Experiences
 - ✓ Attendance at annual Oregon Rural Health Conference
 - ✓ Courses with Interprofessional Educators

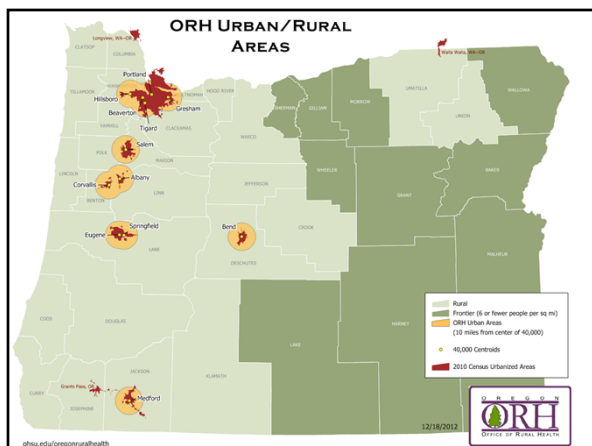


WHY THE NEED FOR A RURAL HEALTH TRACK?

- Rural populations:
 - ✓ ~30% of population in Oregon is rural
 - ✓ increased incidence of chronic disease
 - ✓ higher percentage of elderly
 - ✓ increased need for primary care providers
- Unique area of APRN practice
 - ✓ Requires broader, comprehensive skill set*
 - ✓ Requires a high level of independence and autonomy


❖ Laustsen, G. (2013). What do nurse practitioners do? Analysis of a Skills Survey of Oregon Nurse Practitioners. *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*, 25(1), 32-41. doi: 10.1111/j.1745-7599.2012.00750.x






CURRICULUM OVERVIEW: Courses in Rural Health Track

- ❖ **NURS 740: Urgent and Emergent Rural Primary Care Management for Nurse Practitioners**
- ❖ **NURS 741: Rural Health Care Delivery for Advanced Practice Nurses**
- ❖ **NURS 742: Rural Mental Health Care for the PMHNP**
- ❖ **NURS 703: DNP Clinical Inquiry Project & NURS 790: DNP Clinical Residency**




COURSEWORK: NURS 740: Urgent and Emergent Rural Primary Care Management for Nurse Practitioners

- **Format**
 - Didactic lecture
 - Skills Training
 - Live model practical “exam” & group debriefing
- **Content**
 - Assessment & management of urgent and emergent patients. Conditions commonly seen by APRNs in rural primary care settings
 - Skills: Suturing, x-ray reading, splinting, FB removal, ECG evaluation
 - Implications of primary care in rural health systems




COURSEWORK: NURS 741: Rural Health Care Delivery for Advanced Practice Nurses

- **Format**
 - Readings & Discussion
 - FTF and/or online seminars
- **Content**
 - Delivering comprehensive care in rural areas with limited resources
 - Analysis of policies that shape/influence rural practice (e.g., reimbursement issues)
 - Living and practicing in rural cultures




COURSEWORK: NURS 742: Rural Mental Health Care for the PMHNP

- **Format**
 - Readings & Discussion
 - FTF or online seminars
- **Content**
 - Explores issues & epidemiology related to providing mental health care in rural areas
 - Adaptation of PMHNP role in rural areas
 - Treating urgent and emergent MH conditions
 - Analysis of leadership opportunities
 - interdisciplinary collaboration
 - working in rural health care systems



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW: NURS 790: Clinical Immersion in Rural Practice

- ❖ **9-month rural clinical residency**
 - Post-Masters- 360 total hours
 - Post-baccalaureate- 720 total hours
- ❖ **Mentoring with:**
 - Rural MDs & APRNs
 - Rural hospital administrators
 - Rural EMS systems
- ❖ **Supervised by DNP Chair**



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW: NURS 703: Rural-focused Clinical Inquiry Project (CIP)

- **Purpose: synthesis of coursework and provides a foundation for future clinical scholarship.**
 - Multiple formats
 - Supervised by DNP Chair
- **Project Examples:**
 - Health Care Feasibility Assessment in Columbia County (OR)
 - Assessing Community Readiness for Telepsychiatry in Rural Oregon
 - Barriers to Inpatient Nurse Practitioner Credentialing in Rural Oregon
 - Survey Analysis of Pre-hospital Acute Myocardial Infarction Communication

