Master of Science in Healthcare Quality & Safety
Course Descriptions

HQS 501: Introduction to Healthcare Quality/Culture, Interprofessional Teams, and Simulation (3)
Students will examine the historical trends, current, and future state of quality, risk, and safety. Ethical leadership will be explored that includes a safety culture, interprofessional teamwork and collaboration, and simulation to improve quality of care and health outcomes.

Students will examine the role of health law, regulatory issues, and the business of healthcare quality improvement as well as their application by the healthcare professional. This includes the principles of law, public health, health law, legal control, and risk management.

HQS 503: Improvement Science, Human Factors, and Systems Thinking (3)
Students will explore improvement science to determine which strategies work to assure effective and safe patient care. Human factors will be examined as a research method to provide information about human behavior and the relationship to the work environment and its potential impact on health outcomes. Strategies for leadership roles in systems management and interprofessional practice will be examined.

HQS 512: Organization, Delivery, and Policy in Healthcare (3)
The purpose of this course is to discuss concepts related to healthcare organization and delivery both in the United States and abroad. A major focus of this course will be ecological and socioeconomic determinants of population-based health outcomes. The healthcare professional’s role as an advocate for healthcare policy and educator on health promotion topics will be explored.

HQS 514: Healthcare Leadership and Advanced Roles (3)
The purpose of this course is professional role development related to leadership in advanced healthcare practice. Major emphasis of the course will focus on effective communication as a member of an interprofessional team, strategies to promote change in the healthcare system, and leadership skills necessary to deliver high quality and culturally competent health care to positively affect patient outcome.

HQS 516: Information Systems and Technology for Improved Healthcare (3)
This course is intended to provide insight and understanding in information and patient care technologies. It addresses four broad areas of information systems and technology. These include: 1) The use of patient care and other technologies to deliver and enhance care, 2) Communication technologies in organizations to integrate and coordinate care, 3) Issues of data management to analyze and improve patient outcomes, 4) Health information management for evidence-based care and health education of patients. The course recognizes that information system technology is a dynamic entity in the healthcare system and an attitude of lifelong learning and adaptation is fostered.
**HQS 520: Biostatistics (3)**

The study of biostatistics includes the application of statistical concepts and analytical methods to data encountered in biotechnology and biomedical sciences.

**HQS 525: Epidemiology (3)**

The study of epidemiology as a body of knowledge and a method for analyzing health problems of individuals and populations will be examined. The student will learn how the concepts of epidemiology are used to measure and describe the health of populations and the natural history of diseases.

**HQS 532: Introduction to the US Health System, Healthcare Quality and Safety (3)**

Students will explore and analyze the role of the healthcare leader as it relates to the healthcare system. Included in this analysis is the delivery of safe, effective, and efficient patient care. Topics will include the healthcare environment, federal and state laws/regulations, and oversight of the magnet status journey.

**HQS 533: Quality and Safety in Healthcare (3)**

Students will examine and analyze quality management and safety for system effectiveness to improve the outcomes of healthcare. Topics will include quality improvement efforts, research and ethical issues, basic safety design principles, and national patient safety resources.

**HQS 551: Advanced Role Practicum (3)**

*One hour per week theory/Nine practicum hours per week for the healthcare professional.*

The purpose of the role practicum experience is to operationalize theoretical principles within the graduate’s specialty area of practice. The role practicum focuses on the synthesis and integration of concepts learned throughout the educational experience. Content regarding professional role development, practice roles and relationships, and regulatory requirements for the healthcare professional’s practice are included. Effective participation in multidisciplinary, partnership, and team relationships is an expected outcome. Professional advocacy, assertiveness and leadership in the specialty role are necessary for successful completion.

**HQS 560: Healthcare Quality and Safety Capstone Seminar and Project (3)**

Students will explore the role of a quality and safety healthcare leader with an interprofessional team for an authentic demonstration of program outcomes. The team will facilitate change in a healthcare setting of their choice. The project’s results will be disseminated in a scholarly paper and presentation.