

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Focus

The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree (DNP) has two options: Family Nurse Practitioner (<https://www.montana.edu/nursing/graduate/dnpoption.html>) and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (<https://www.montana.edu/nursing/graduate/dnpoption.html>). The DNP degree prepares the graduate for advanced practice nursing with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to provide clinical expertise, judgment, scholarship, and leadership at the highest level of nursing practice in the primary health care setting. Graduates will be eligible for national APRN certification and licensure specific to the population focus.

Students are able to choose a full-time three year or part-time four year course plan for completion of the DNP degree. DNP applicants with prior graduate nursing education will submit transcripts for review of potential equivalent coursework. This gap analysis will inform an individualized Program of Study.

DNP Program Learning Outcomes

This program reflects the 2021 AACN Master's *Essentials*. Students completing the graduate nursing program will:

1. Evaluate, integrate, translate, and apply evidence from nursing science and other disciplines in the delivery of care.
2. Create, communicate, and evaluate person-centered care that includes holistic, individualized, just, culturally aware, respectful, compassionate, coordinated, evidence-based and developmentally appropriate.
3. Analyze current population health gaps and create and evaluate cost-effective, evidence-based interventions to meet the needs of the target population.
4. Advance the scholarship of nursing through the integration of best evidence and ethical conduct of scholarly activities.
5. Employ improvement science to ensure system effectiveness for safe, person-centered care within a physically, psychologically, secure, and just environment.
6. Collaborate across professions and with other stakeholders to optimized care, enhance the healthcare experience, and strengthen outcomes.
7. Coordinate the resources of the complex healthcare system to provide safe, quality, and equitable care to diverse populations.
8. Use information and communication technology to anticipate, manage and improve healthcare in accordance with best practice and professional and regulatory standards.
9. Model a sustainable professional identity of accountability, ethical comportment, and collaborative disposition.
10. Participate in activities and self-reflection that foster personal health, resilience, and well-being; students will contribute to life-long learning; and students will support the acquisition of nursing expertise and the assertion of leadership.

BSN to DNP (Family Nurse Practitioner) Program Requirements

NRSG 601	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NRSG 602	Adv Physio/Pathophysiology	4
NRSG 603	Advanced Pharmacology I	2
NRSG 604	Evidence Based Practice I	4
NRSG 605	Evidence Based Practice II	3

NRSG 606	Statistical Applications	3
NRSG 607	Diagnostic Reasoning	3
NRSG 608	Design H C Delivery Systems	3
NRSG 609	Advanced Nursing Leadership & Roles	3
NRSG 610	Health Care Informatics	3
NRSG 611	Program Planning & Evaluation, Outcomes, & Quality Improvement	3
NRSG 612	Ethics, Law, and Policy for Advocacy in Healthcare	3
NRSG 613	Finance & Budget H C Systems	2
NRSG 614	Vulnerability and Health Care in Diverse Communities	4
NRSG 620	Adv Pharm II	3
NRSG 621	Advanced Clinical I-FI	6
NRSG 622	Advanced Clinical II Primary Care for Midlife Families	6
NRSG 623	Advanced Clinical III: Primary Care for Aging Families	6
NRSG 624	Advanced Clinical IV (NP, Family/Individual) Primary Care Clinical Preceptorship	8
NRSG 674	Graduate Nursing Scholarly Project Seminar ()	2
or NRSG 673	Writing for Scholarly Projects	
NRSG 675	DNP Scholarly Project	6

Total Credits - 83

BSN to DNP (Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner) Program Requirements

NRSG 601	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NRSG 602	Adv Physio/Pathophysiology	4
NRSG 603	Advanced Pharmacology I	2
NRSG 604	Evidence Based Practice I	4
NRSG 605	Evidence Based Practice II	3
NRSG 606	Statistical Applications	3
NRSG 607	Diagnostic Reasoning	3
NRSG 608	Design H C Delivery Systems	3
NRSG 609	Advanced Nursing Leadership & Roles	3
NRSG 610	Health Care Informatics	3
NRSG 611	Program Planning & Evaluation, Outcomes, & Quality Improvement	3
NRSG 612	Ethics, Law, and Policy for Advocacy in Healthcare	3
NRSG 613	Finance & Budget H C Systems	2
NRSG 614	Vulnerability and Health Care in Diverse Communities	4
NRSG 629	Introduction to Advanced Practice Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	2
NRSG 630	Adv Psychopharm II	3
NRSG 631	Advanced Clinical I – Psych/Mental Health	6
NRSG 632	Advanced Clinical II: Psychotherapeutic Modalities	6
NRSG 633	Advanced Clinical III, Psych/Mental Health	6
NRSG 634	Advanced Clinical IV, NP, Psych/Mental Health	8

NRSG 674	Graduate Nursing Scholarly Project Seminar (or NRSG 691)	2
or NRSG 673	Writing for Scholarly Projects	
NRSG 675	DNP Scholarly Project	3

Total Credits - 82

Post-Master's DNP Program Requirements

The DNP Post-Master's option is designed for nationally-certified, currently-practicing, master's prepared Nurse Practitioners who do *not* wish to add a separate practice focus. Graduates generate new knowledge through innovation of practice change, the translation of evidence, and the implementation of quality improvement processes in specific practice settings, systems, or with specific populations to improve health or health outcomes.

The DNP Post Mater's option is designed for nationally certified, currently practicing, masters prepared Nurse Practitioners who do not wish to add a separate practice focus. Graduates generate new knowledge through innovation of practice change, the translation of evidence, and the implementation of quality improvement processes in specific practice settings, systems, or with specific populations to improve health or health outcomes. A complete gap analysis of transcripts is used to determine if prior masters courses may be waived and the number of clinical hours to be credited towards the required 1000 DNP hours. Full and part-time course work is available.

NRSG 604	Evidence Based Practice I	4
NRSG 605	Evidence Based Practice II	3
NRSG 606	Statistical Applications	3
NRSG 608	Design H C Delivery Systems	3
NRSG 609	Advanced Nursing Leadership & Roles	3
NRSG 610	Health Care Informatics	3
NRSG 611	Program Planning & Evaluation, Outcomes, & Quality Improvement	3
NRSG 612	Ethics, Law, and Policy for Advocacy in Healthcare	3
NRSG 613	Finance & Budget H C Systems	2
NRSG 614	Vulnerability and Health Care in Diverse Communities	4
NRSG 674	Graduate Nursing Scholarly Project Seminar	2
or NRSG 673	Writing for Scholarly Projects	
NRSG 675	DNP Scholarly Project	6

Total Credits: 42. .

Scholarly Project

Each student completes and defends a scholarly project developed in collaboration with a faculty advisor and a committee conducted over two semesters during the final year of study. Examples of exciting and innovative student projects include: development of mental health outreach programs to the rural elderly; examination of alternative health practices for healing; and establishment of pediatric cancer support groups for the rural client.