

NURSING PRACTICE, DNP: CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST: PEDIATRICS

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program at UWM prepares nurses for the highest academic preparation in clinical nursing. The DNP will prepare practitioners who are able to use their education and expertise in evidence-based practice in providing outstanding care and collaborative leadership to improve clinical care delivery, patient outcomes, and system management.

There are three entry options for the Doctor of Nursing (DNP) Practice Program:

1. Program for individuals with a bachelor's degree in nursing and a current Registered Nurse license.
2. Program for individuals with an advanced practice master's degree in nursing and a current Registered Nurse license.
3. Program for individuals with a master of nursing (or equivalent) degree and a current Registered Nurse license.

Students may be admitted for the Fall or Spring semester, on a part-time or full-time plan of study.

Students entering with a bachelor's degree in nursing or a master of nursing degree and a current RN license choose a specialization in one of the following areas:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG ACNP)
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)
- Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS): Population focus in Adult-Gerontology, or Pediatrics.
- Nursing System Leadership (Nurse Executive)

The online Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice is for Advanced Practice Nurses (NP, CNS, CNM, CRNA) with a master's degree.

Transcript Designated Concentrations:

- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Clinical Nurse Specialist- Adult-Gerontology
- Clinical Nurse Specialist-Pediatrics
- Nursing System Leadership-Nurse Executive

Admission Requirements

Application Deadlines

Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application deadline chart (<http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines/>) for specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found by using the One Stop calendars (<https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines/>).

Admission

The admission requirements of the DNP program in Nursing are consistent with those requirements specified by the Graduate School of

the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In addition, students must also meet the following requirements for the School of Nursing:

1. A bachelor's degree or a master's in Nursing from a professionally accredited program, with a minimum undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0 (4.0 scale).
2. One year of RN experience.
3. Completion with a grade of B or higher of an upper-level undergraduate course in statistics within the last five years.
4. A current unencumbered Registered Nurse license.
5. Three (3) letters of recommendation for graduate study in nursing, two (2) of which are from persons most knowledgeable about the applicant's recent academic and work experiences.
6. Completion of a personal statement.
7. Current CV or resume.
8. Submission of one writing sample.
9. Personal interview with a faculty member may be requested.

Reapplication

A student who receives a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee must formally reapply for admission to the Graduate School before continuing studies toward the DNP.

Credits and Courses

Post Baccalaureate Curriculum

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a three-year, full time, 65-credit post-baccalaureate program, which includes 30 credit hours of core theoretical courses, an advanced nursing practice core (9 credits), a research core (9 credits) a systems core (12 credits), 27 credits hours of specialty theory and practicum courses, and 8 credits in the DNP Project Core.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|--|-----------|
| Core Theoretical Coursework | | |
| <i>Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice Core</i> | | |
| NURS 726 | Advanced Perspectives on Cultural Diversity and Disparities in Health Care | 3 |
| NURS 728 | Epidemiological Principles for Population Health | 3 |
| NURS 735 | Theory for Advanced Practice | 3 |
| <i>Evidence Based Practice Core</i> | | |
| NURS 720 | Biostatistics and Applications for Nursing Practice | 3 |
| NURS 725 | Evidence Based Practice in Healthcare | 3 |
| NURS 805 | Translational and Implementation Science | 3 |
| <i>Systems Core</i> | | |
| NURS 750 | Outcomes and Quality Management | 3 |
| NURS 773 | Information Systems to Support Clinical Decision-Making | 3 |
| NURS 803 | Health Policy | 3 |
| NURS 804 | Healthcare Organization and Systems Leadership for Advanced Practice | 3 |
| Specialty Theory and Practicum | | 27 |
| Project Core | | |
| NURS 993 | DNP Project I: Plan | 2 |

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| NURS 994 | DNP Project II: Proposal | 2 |
| NURS 995 | DNP Project III: Leadership Practice Immersion ¹ | 4 |
| Total Credits | | 65 |

¹ May be completed over 1 or 2 semesters.

Post Generalist Master's Curriculum (MN or equivalent)

The Post Generalist Master's Curriculum is a minimum of 41 credits that builds upon the required entry point of a Generalist Master's in Nursing (MN or equivalent). Where course background varies, an individual plan of study will be developed based on review of the previous master's program coursework and transcript.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|--|-----------|
| Foundations of Advanced Practice Core | | |
| NURS 726 | Advanced Perspectives on Cultural Diversity and Disparities in Health Care | 3 |
| NURS 728 | Epidemiological Principles for Population Health | 3 |
| NURS 735 | Theory for Advanced Practice | 3 |
| NURS 804 | Healthcare Organization and Systems Leadership for Advanced Practice | 3 |
| Evidence Based Practice Core | | |
| NURS 805 | Translational and Implementation Science (Evidence Based Practice Core) | 3 |
| Specialty Theory and Practicum | | 18 |
| Project Core | | |
| NURS 993 | DNP Project I: Plan (Project Core) | 2 |
| NURS 994 | DNP Project II: Proposal | 2 |
| NURS 995 | DNP Project III: Leadership Practice Immersion ¹ | 4 |
| Total Credits | | 41 |

¹ May be completed over 1 or 2 semesters.

Post-Master's Curriculum (Other Nursing Master's Degrees)

The Post-Master's Curriculum includes Nursing Master's Degrees that are not Advanced Practice or a Generalist Master's (MN or equivalent). Examples may include a Master's in Nursing Education or Nursing Leadership. An individual plan of study will be developed based on review of the previous Master's Program coursework and transcript.

Clinical Nurse Specialist Requirements

The theory courses vary by population focus and must provide content across the continuum from wellness through acute care for the selected population. The plan for theory course work must be approved by the CNS option coordinator. The following courses under the Specialty Theory Electives heading are examples of those that can be included as specialty support credits. Other courses can be included with advisor approval.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---------|
| Advanced Practice Specialty Core | | |
| NURS 707 | Advanced Pharmacology: Application to Advanced Nursing Practice | 3 |

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| NURS 753 | Pathophysiologic Basis of Advanced Nursing Practice | 3 |
| NURS 754 | Comprehensive Assessment of Health: Implications for Clinical Decision-Making | 3 |

Specialty Theory Electives 12

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| NURS 705 | Instructional Strategies for Patient Education | |
| NURS 760 | Processes of Aging | |
| NURS 762 | Family Theory and Intervention Strategies for Advanced Nursing Practice | |
| NURS 763 | Issues in Women's Health and Development | |
| NURS 764 | Changing Health Behaviors | |
| NURS 766 | Advanced Practice Nursing: Care of the Child and Family | |
| NURS 772 | Advanced Practice Nursing: Maternal-Infant and Women's Health | |
| NURS 774 | Trauma Counseling I: Theory and Research | |
| NURS 775 | Trauma Counseling II: Diagnosis and Treatment | |
| NURS 779 | Special Topics Seminar: (Advanced Practice Nursing I: Health Promotion of Women and Childbearing Families) | |
| NURS 779 | Special Topics Seminar: (Advanced Practice Nursing II: Women and Childbearing Families with Acute and Chronic Health Conditions) | |
| NURS 779 | Special Topics Seminar: (Advanced Practice Nursing: Theoretical Foundations for Child Health) | |
| NURS 779 | Special Topics Seminar: (Advanced Practice Nursing: Health Promotion and Acute Illnesses in Children) | |
| NURS 779 | Special Topics Seminar: (Advanced Practice Nursing: Adult-Gerontology: Chronic Illness) | |
| NURS 779 | Special Topics Seminar: (Advanced Practice Nursing: Adult-Gerontology: Acute Illness) | |
| NURS 779 | Special Topics Seminar: (Special Topics: Palliative Care) | |
| COUNS 710 | Counseling: Theory and Issues | |
| COUNS 714 | Essentials of Counseling Practice | |
| ED PSY 743 | Human Development: Study of Infancy and Early Childhood | |
| ED PSY 746 | Human Development: Study of the Adolescent | |

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|----------------------|--|-----------|
| Practicum | | 9 |
| Total Credits | | 30 |

Clinical Nurse Specialist: Pediatrics Practicum

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--------------------------|--|----------|
| Practicum Courses | | |
| NURS 817 | Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum I- Pediatric | 3 |
| NURS 818 | Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum II- Pediatric | 3 |
| NURS 819 | Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum III- Pediatric | 3 |
| Total Credits | | 9 |

A candidate who does not pass this examination within program time limits may be required to undergo another comprehensive preliminary examination and be readmitted to the program and/or candidacy.

Additional Requirements

Faculty Advisor

The student must have a Faculty Advisor to advise and supervise the student's studies as specified in Graduate School regulations. The student is assigned to a Faculty Advisor at the time of admission.

Leadership Practice Immersion

Both the post baccalaureate and post master's curriculum include a 4-credit DNP Project III, an experience that will include the required DNP project. This residency experience will include 460 additional clinical hours in the student's specialty focus area and will include an emphasis on the evidence-based practice, leadership and system competencies of the DNP prepared graduate.

Time Limit

Students in the post baccalaureate DNP program must complete all degree requirements within seven years of the first enrollment semester as a degree student. Students in the post master's DNP program must complete all degree requirements within five years of the first enrollment semester as a degree student.

Minimum Grade Requirement

For continuation in the program, in addition to general Graduate School requirements (<http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/academic-policies-procedures/>), students must achieve a minimum grade of B- in all required nursing courses. However, an overall GPA of 3.00 is still required for the degree.

Residence

The student must meet minimum Graduate School residence requirements.

DNP Project II: Proposal/Doctoral Preliminary Examination

The student must pass a doctoral preliminary examination to qualify for formal admission to candidacy for degree. The doctoral examination comprises a written portfolio and an oral component, taken in that sequence, with each component requiring a passing grade for successful completion. The examination is an integrative experience that is designed to validate the student's mastery of the content of the DNP curriculum and must be completed prior to beginning the residency experience.

DNP Project III: Leadership Practice Immersion

The candidate will complete a final comprehensive clinical project as part of the Leadership Practice Immersion experience which demonstrates the ability to implement the principles of evidence-based practice and translation under the direction of the faculty advisor.

The candidate must, as the final step toward the degree, pass an oral examination in defense of the clinical project. A candidate who does not pass this examination may apply for reexamination within one year from the initial examination date. This reexamination may occur only one time.