

NURSING, ADULT-GERONTOLOGY-CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST - DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Specialist (Code 700-834)

UW-Eau Claire offers Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree options for individuals pursuing education in advanced practice nursing. The DNP is a clinical doctorate designed to prepare nurses to assume leadership roles in the areas of advanced practice nursing (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) or nursing administration/nurse executive. Both MSN-to-DNP and BSN-to-DNP options are offered.

The post-master's (MSN-to-DNP) option includes an advanced clinical practice option (for nurse practitioners or clinical nurse specialists) or a nurse executive option. The MSN-to-DNP option typically is a part-time two-year program that includes 30 credits of nursing courses (29 credits for the Nurse Executive Option). The plan requires students to take courses during Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring terms.

The post-baccalaureate (BSN-to-DNP) option includes an adult-gerontologic or family nursing population focus and a primary care nurse practitioner (NP), clinical nurse specialist, or nurse administrator/nurse executive role preparation. Students choose from the following BSN-to-DNP options:

- Adult-gerontologic primary care nurse practitioner
- Adult-gerontologic clinical nurse specialist
- Family nurse practitioner
- Nurse administrator/nurse executive (adult-gerontologic or family population focus)

The post-baccalaureate DNP program includes approximately 68 credits for administration/nurse executive students and 73 credits for advanced clinical practice students (nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist). The courses are taken over three academic years for full-time students and four to five years for part-time students.

Program costs are higher than typical University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire graduate programs and thus the 800-level DNP courses involve additional course fees. Graduate students must earn a grade of C or above in courses and practica to successfully progress. No more than 2 C's may be earned in the graduate program. Further information may be obtained from the Nursing Graduate Programs Director, College of Nursing and Health Sciences and the College (<http://www.uwec.edu/conhs>) website.

A graduate of the DNP program will be prepared to:

1. Expand advanced nursing practice by integrating the art and science of nursing with theory and knowledge from biophysical, psychosocial, political, ethical, technical, analytical, cultural, spiritual, environmental, and organizational realms.
2. Promote culturally sensitive, holistic advanced nursing practice care and services in a global community, with emphasis on disease/illness prevention and health/wellness promotion as well as restoration and maintenance.

3. Synthesize leadership skills, systems analysis, and advocacy expertise.
4. Integrate clinical expertise and competence with population-focused management, evidence-based practice, and health care policy.
5. Analyze health-related information systems and technology for the improvement of health care.
6. Develop, implement and evaluate evidence-based approaches to advanced nursing practice.
7. Evaluate the outcomes of advanced nursing practice.
8. Apply clinical scholarship and leadership skills to advanced nursing practice.
9. Evaluate personal scholarship, professional growth, and excellence in practice.

Criteria for admission into the DNP Post-Baccalaureate Program include:

1. Acceptance as a graduate student in good standing in the university.
2. An undergraduate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited (CCNE, NLN, or ACEN) nursing program, with a GPA of 3.00 or higher.
3. Evidence of course work in statistics at the undergraduate level.
4. Wisconsin Registered Nurse licensure (needed by July 1st following admission). Current nursing licensure in one of the jurisdictions of the United States required at time of application.
5. Satisfactory evidence of personal qualifications and capacity for doctoral study in nursing.
6. Competence in health assessment.
7. Completed application materials including a DNP Demographic Form, essay, resume, university application, official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions attended, three references (forms provided) from individuals who are knowledgeable of the applicant's clinical expertise and/or potential for graduate study, and all application fees.
8. Completed health record, background check, and evidence of current CPR certification and other related requirements (needed by July 1st following admission).

NOTE: Consideration may be given to previous practice experience and choice of population focus and role preparation.

Nursing, Adult-Gerontologic-Clinical Nurse Specialist Curriculum

Post-baccalaureate DNP (BSN-to-DNP) students interested in the clinical nurse specialist role preparation choose the adult-gerontologic population focus. The post-baccalaureate DNP program consists of approximately 73 credits and 1,087 clinical hours for the clinical nurse specialist role preparation. The fulltime program plan is for 3 years, with 4- and 5-year part-time options available. Clinical nurse specialist role preparation courses are offered on alternate years, e.g., NRS 741 is offered in Fall 2017, 2019, 2021, etc. The post-baccalaureate program includes 41 credits of courses at the 800 level, comprising core, role preparation, seminar, and practicum courses. Thirty-two credits are taken at the 700 level and include core, population focus, and role preparation theory and clinical practicum courses. A DNP project with presentation is required.

700-Level Core Courses

NRS 701	Nursing Research: Methods	4
NRS 702	Nursing Research: Application	2
NRS 715	Leadership and Health Policy in Nursing	3

Population Focus

Adult-Gerontologic

NRS 719	Human Responses in Health and Illness: Adults and Older Adults	4
NRS 720	Advanced Theory and Practice of Adults and Older Adults I	4

Functional Role Preparation

Advanced Clinical Practice Role - Clinical Nurse Specialist

NRS 704	Advanced Health Assessment: Adults and Older Adults	2
NRS 709	Advanced Physiological and Pathophysiological Concepts	3
NRS 712	Pharmacotherapeutics for Advanced Clinical Practice	3
NRS 741	Clinical Nurse Specialist I: Adult and Older Adult Health (CNS)	7
NRS 816	Advanced Clinical Practice for Adults and Older Adults II	7
NRS 842	Advanced Clinical Practice of Frail Older Adults	3
NRS 846	Synthesis of Advanced Practice of Adults and Older Adults	3

800-Level Core Courses

NRS 800	Advanced Nursing Practice and Informatics	2
NRS 801	Philosophical, Theoretical, and Ethical Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice	4
NRS 803	Advanced Epidemiology and Biostatistics for Population Health	4
NRS 805	Clinical Scholarship for Advanced Nursing Practice	4
NRS 809	Organizational Leadership and Health Policy for Advanced Nursing Practice	4

800-Level Seminar/Practica and DNP Project

NRS 820	BSN to DNP Seminar & Practicum I	3
NRS 823	BSN to DNP Seminar II	2
NRS 890	DNP Project I	2
NRS 891	DNP Project II	3