Program Description

Degree Awarded: DNP Advanced Nursing Practice (Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner)

Doctor of Nursing Practice graduates are prepared to practice at the most advanced level of nursing.

This DNP program, accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, provides a foundation for this specialty through graduate courses in the application of theory to advance practice. A major focus of the program is the acquisition of advanced knowledge and skills for primary care, case management, screening and health promotion of adults through the lifespan in a variety of settings, including private practice, ambulatory clinics, long-term care facilities and the patient's home.

This program is offered in a hybrid in-person and iCourse format, requiring students to travel to campus for up to one week for orientation at the beginning of the program and then two or three times per semester.

Focused clinical experiences are arranged with appropriate preceptors and administrators for students residing in Arizona. In-state students who live in Maricopa County are assigned clinical experiences in that geographic area. In-state students who live outside of Maricopa County may be assigned clinical placements in other areas of Arizona based on the College’s ability to secure clinical agreements with those sites. In the event that clinical sites are unavailable in the student's geographical area or if the faculty determines the student needs additional faculty supervision for clinical progress in their program, the student is required to complete their clinical experience in the Phoenix area.

Students residing outside of Arizona will be responsible for identifying one or more clinical sites in their area of residence. These sites must be approved by Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation before starting any clinical experience.

Experiences with disadvantaged and multicultural populations are encouraged as are experiences in rural areas when sites are available for these experiences. These sites may be available in Maricopa County.
At a Glance

- College/School: Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation
- Location: Downtown Phoenix campus

Concurrent Program Options

This degree is also offered as concurrent degree program with:

Nursing and Healthcare Innovation, PhD

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours including the required applied project course (DNP 707)

Required Core (21 credit hours)
DNP 604 Advanced Human Pathophysiology Across Lifespan (4)
DNP 605 Advanced Health Assessment Across Lifespan (3)
DNP 608 Applied Pharmacotherapeutics Across Lifespan (3)
DNP 609 Advanced Practice Nursing Role (1)
DNP 704 Principles of Evidence-Based Care in Advanced Practice (4)
DNP 705 Healthcare Outcome Management (3)
DNP 708 Systems Thinking in a Complex Healthcare Environment (3)

Concentration (34 credit hours)
DNP 623 Adult-Gerontontology Health Promotion (3)
DNP 624 Adult-Gerontontology Health Promotion Practicum (3)
DNP 625 Management of Common Health Problems in Adults Across the Lifespan (3)
DNP 626 Management of Common Health Problems/Adults Across the Lifespan Practicum (5)
DNP 627 Management of Complex Health Alterations in Adults Across the Lifespan (3)
DNP 628 Management of Adults Across the Lifespan w/Complex Health Alterations Practicum (5)
DNP 712 Clinical Residency and Management (12)

Other Requirement (20 credit hours)
DNP 601 Theoretical Foundations for Advance Practice Nursing (3)
DNP 602 Evaluating Research for Practice (3)
DNP 679 Biostatistics: Principals of Statistical Inference (3)
DNP 703 Innovation in Communication: Scholarly and Professional Writing (2)
Electives and Research (6 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
DNP 707 Disseminating Evidence to Advance Best Practice in Health Care and Health Policy (3)

Additional Curriculum Information
Completion of an evidence-based doctoral applied project focused on a clinical issue relevant to advanced practice nursing is required.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center has recommended a minimum of 1,000 postbaccalaureate practicum hours for all students completing the DNP. The program includes 1,125 practicum hours, exceeding the ANCC requirement.

For electives or research, students should see the academic unit for the approved course list. Other coursework may be used with the approval of the academic unit.

When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows up to 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this program.

Other requirement coursework may be substituted with approval of the academic unit if the student is in an approved concurrent program.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in nursing from a nationally recognized, regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. three professional letters of recommendation
4. resume
5. goal statement
6. admission essay
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency per the Graduate College requirement and all requirements for the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools.

A current unencumbered RN license in the state in which the student plans to do clinical practicums is required. All students are also required to have an unencumbered Arizona RN license or an unencumbered compact state RN license as mandated by the Arizona State Board of Nursing. The RN license must remain unencumbered throughout enrollment in any nursing program.

An interview with program faculty is required.

One year of clinical experience working within the student's specialty population is preferred.

Health and safety requirements include passing disposition on a background clearance and satisfactory completion of a substance screen.

No admission examination is required.

Applicants will be reviewed on a space-available basis after the priority deadline; application deadlines are posted on the program website.

Application Deadlines

Fall 

Contact Information

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