



# DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

## UW-EAU CLAIRE DNP FACT SHEET—POST-MASTER'S OPTION

### INTRODUCTION

Beginning in the summer of 2010, UW-Eau Claire will offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree option for individuals pursuing education in advanced practice nursing. The DNP is a clinical doctorate intended for nurses assuming leadership roles in the areas of advanced clinical practice (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) or nursing administration. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) is requiring the DNP degree to be the entry level of practice for advanced clinical practice nurses by 2015. During the first two years of the UW-Eau Claire DNP program, the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 academic years, the DNP will be offered as a post-master's option only (for part-time students during the initial year). It is anticipated that beginning in the 2012-2013 academic year, both MSN-to-DNP and BSN-to-DNP options will be offered.

### GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

Graduates of the DNP program will be able to:

- 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.
- 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.
- Synthesize leadership skills, systems analysis, and advocacy expertise.

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

### PROFILE OF UW-EAU CLAIRE

Founded in 1916, UW-Eau Claire is a top-ranked liberal arts university set on a beautiful campus in the heart of Eau Claire. Approximately 10,000 undergraduate and **500 graduate students** take advantage of the university's innovative curriculum, personal attention and numerous research opportunities. UW-Eau Claire offers 80 undergraduate and **19 graduate degree programs**, which are organized into four colleges: College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business, College of Education and Human Sciences and College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Students enjoy small class sizes taught by expert faculty members – not teaching assistants – and plentiful opportunities to engage in projects that promote critical thinking and prepare students to be engaged citizens and perceptive leaders.

### MSN-TO-DNP OPTION

For MSN-to-DNP students, the program consists of 28 credits taken at the 800-level. The 800-level courses include four core courses, two seminar and practicum courses (provide 450 clinical hours), and a capstone experience course. The courses will be offered as hybrids that combine online components with immersion days and can be taken over three terms (summer, fall, and spring) for full-time students and over two years for part-time students.

Students must earn a grade of C or better in course work and clinicals to successfully progress. The clinical experiences are accomplished under the guidance of a faculty member and a preceptor.

### 800-LEVEL DNP COURSES

TITLE	CREDITS
Advanced Epidemiology & Biostatistics for Population Health	4
Philosophical, Theoretical, & Ethical Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice	4
Clinical Scholarship for Advanced Nursing Practice	4
Organizational Leadership & Health Policy for Advanced Nursing Practice	4
DNP Seminar & Practicum I & II	9
Capstone Project	3

### ADMISSION APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To apply to the DNP program, an applicant must submit the following documents by **January 4** for consideration for the following summer term:

- A complete application for graduate admission along with the application fee.

- Official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions previously attended.
- An undergraduate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited (CCNE or NLN) nursing program, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Three references from individuals who are knowledgeable of the applicant's clinical ability and/or potential for graduate study.
- An essay.
- A complete DNP Demographic Form.
- Wisconsin Registered Nurse licensure.
- A master's degree in nursing from a nationally accredited (CCNE or NLN) nursing program, with a role preparation in Advanced Practice Nursing as an Adult or Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist, or Nurse Administrator.
- Evidence of 550 hours of master's level clinical practicum (or national certification by a body approved by the Wisconsin State Board of Nursing).
- Evidence of basic epidemiology content.
- Evidence of graduate level pharmacology (not required for nursing administration students), nursing research, and nursing theory.

Send materials to:  
 Graduate Admissions  
 UW-Eau Claire  
 Schofield Hall 112  
 Eau Claire WI 54702-4004

#### BSN-TO-DNP OPTION

For the BSN-to-DNP option, students specialize in adult or family health nursing and select a role preparation in advanced clinical practice (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) or nursing administration. The BSN-to-DNP program consists of 70-76 credits, depending on the area of advanced practice. 42-48 credits

are at the 700-level and the final 28 credits are at the 800-level. BSN-to-DNP students have 550-650 clinical hours at the 700-level during the first 2 years and an additional 450 clinical hours at the 800-level during the third year of study. The courses can be taken over three years for full-time post-baccalaureate students and over 4-6 years for part-time students.

Note: Program costs are higher than typical UWEC graduate programs and thus the 800-level DNP courses involve additional course fees.

#### THE EAU CLAIRE ADVANTAGE

- U.S. News & World Report magazine consistently ranks UW-Eau Claire among the top public regional universities in the Midwest in its annual America's Best Colleges guidebook.
- UW-Eau Claire's reputation as an interactive university has been cited in publications such as Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine, Money Magazine, and The Chronicle of Higher Education.
- Four UW-Eau Claire professors, including a nursing professor, have been recipients of Wisconsin Professor of the Year awards.
- UW-Eau Claire is a member institution of The Council of Graduate Schools and is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For prospective graduate students, to learn more about the Nursing Graduate Program options available in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at UW-Eau Claire, contact:

**DR. DEBRA JANSEN**  
**Acting Associate Dean**  
**College of Nursing and Health Sciences**  
 University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

105 Garfield Avenue  
 P.O. Box 4004  
 Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004  
 Phone: 715-836-5183  
 E-mail: Jansenda@uwec.edu  
 Web: www.uwec.edu/conhs

#### Or GRADUATE STUDIES OFFICE

Schofield Hall 210  
 Phone: 715-836-2721  
 E-mail: graduate@uwec.edu  
 Web: www.uwec.edu/graduate

For general information about the campus and admission to a program, contact:

#### ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Schofield Hall 112  
 Phone: 715-836-5415  
 E-mail: admissions@uwec.edu  
 Web: www.uwec.edu/admissions



Experience the Eau Claire Advantage.