



# DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

## UW-EAU CLAIRE POST-BACCALAUREATE DNP FACT SHEET

### INTRODUCTION

UW-Eau Claire offers a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree 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 DNP is offered as a **post-baccalaureate** (BSN-to-DNP) option and as a post-master's (MSN-to-DNP) option. The DNP program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

### 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.

### CURRICULUM

BSN-to-DNP students choose an adult-gerontologic or family health nursing population focus and select a role preparation from the following options:

- Adult-gerontologic primary care nurse practitioner
- Adult-gerontologic clinical nurse specialist--admissions to this option on hold
- Family nurse practitioner
- Nurse administrator

Graduates are eligible to sit for AGPCNP, FNP, or AGCNS certification, as appropriate. With completion of the DNP degree and sufficient work experience, administration graduates may sit for AONE or ANCC certification.

Up to 20 graduate credits may be transferrable to UW-Eau Claire.

### BSN-to-DNP Option

For BSN-to-DNP students, the program consists of approximately 68 credits (including 6 credits of cognates/electives) and 1,050 clinical hours for the administration role preparation; and approximately 73 credits and 1,087 clinical hours for nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist role preparations. The full-time program plan is for 3 years, with

4- and 5-year part-time options available. For full-time students, the first year of courses are mostly 700-level courses taught predominantly at the Eau Claire campus on Mondays; and the second year of courses include 800-level courses generally taught on Tuesdays at the Eau Claire campus. The third year consists of 800-level courses taught on Wednesdays. The summer, winterim, and third year 800-level courses are offered as hybrids that combine online components with immersion (on-campus) days.

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 preceptor or agency facilitator.

### MSN-to-DNP Option

For MSN-to-DNP students, the program consists of 31 credits taken at the 800-level. Two options are available, one for advanced practice nurses (NP, CNS, CRNA, CNM) and one for nurse executives.

The 800-level courses include five core courses, two seminar and practicum courses (provide 450 clinical hours for the ACP and 525 hours for the executive option), and DNP Project experience courses. The courses are offered as hybrids that combine online components with immersion days on select Tuesdays and Wednesdays on campus. Please note: The MSN-to-DNP option typically is a part-time two and one half-year program. The plan requires students to take courses during the Spring, Summer and Fall semesters, and one winterim term.

## COURSES/CREDITS

### 700-LEVEL COURSES

TITLE CREDITS

#### CORE COURSES

Nursing Research: Methods	4
Leadership and Health Policy in Nursing	3

#### POPULATION FOCUS

##### Adult-Gerontologic

Human Responses; and Advanced Theory & Practice of Adults/ Older Adults I	8
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or

##### Family

Individual/Family and Community Responses; and Advanced Theory & Practice of Family Health I	8
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<b>Cognates/electives</b>	6
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(Administration role preparation  
students only)

#### FUNCTIONAL ROLE

#### PREPARATION (700 & 800 level)

TITLE CREDITS

##### Advanced Clinical Practice Role

Advanced Physiological and Pathophysiological Concepts	3
Pharmacotherapeutics for Advanced Clinical Practice	3
Advanced Health Assessment	2

Advanced Clinical Practice I & II Adult-Gero (Primary Care NP)	11
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or

Advanced Clinical Practice I and II Family (NP)	11
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Advanced Clinical Practice of Frail Older Adults	5
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Advanced Clinical Practice of Families	5
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Synthesis of Advanced Practice of Adults and Older Adults I & II	5
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or

Synthesis of Advanced Practice Families I & II	5
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##### Administrator Role

Nursing Administration I, II, & III	15
Synthesis for the Nurse Executive	3

### 800-LEVEL CORE COURSES

TITLE CREDITS

Advanced Epidemiology & Biostatistics for Population Health	4
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Philosophical, Theoretical, & Ethical Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
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Clinical Scholarship for Advanced Nursing Practice	4
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Organizational Leadership & Health Policy for Advanced Nursing Practice	4
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Advanced Nursing Practice & Informatics	2
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#### 800-Level Practica and Project

DNP Seminar & Practicum I, II, III	5
DNP Project I, II, III	7

The DNP Project involves developing a project in a phenomena of interest that focuses on advancing the nursing profession and health care. Students demonstrate advanced levels of clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability in the design, delivery, and evaluation of evidence-based practice to improve health care outcomes for the phenomena of interest.

Note: Program costs are higher than typical UWEC graduate programs and thus the 800-level courses involve additional costs, e.g., an additional fee of approximately \$253 per credit.

#### ADMISSION APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To apply to the **BSN-to-DNP program**, an applicant must contact Dr. Catherine Kenney and submit the following documents for consideration for the following fall term:

- A complete application for graduate admission along with the application fees.
- Official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions previously attended.
- An undergraduate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited (CCNE, NLN, or ACEN) nursing program, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Evidence of undergraduate-level course work in statistics.

- Three references (using required forms) from individuals who are knowledgeable of the applicant's clinical ability and/or potential for graduate study.
- Resume or vita.
- An essay.
- A complete DNP Demographic Form.
- Wisconsin Registered Nurse licensure. (RN licensure in U.S. required at time of application; WI RN license needed by July 1<sup>st</sup>.)

**January 4 is the priority application deadline; however, DNP applications are accepted until seats are filled. Also see graduate catalog for complete criteria**

Please see the Post-Master's DNP fact sheet and University Catalog for admission criteria for the MSN-to-DNP option: [www.uwec.ly/conhs](http://www.uwec.ly/conhs)

Admitted students are required to submit health & immunization/titer requirements, CPR certification at the health care provider level, and background check information. Personal health insurance required.

#### 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. Catherine Kenney, Graduate Admissions Coordinator**

**College of Nursing & Health Sciences**

E-mail: [kromricc@uwec.edu](mailto:kromricc@uwec.edu)

715-836-3638

Or **GRADUATE STUDIES OFFICE**

Schofield Hall 210

Phone: 715-836-2721

E-mail: [graduate@uwec.edu](mailto:graduate@uwec.edu)

Web: [www.uwec.edu/graduate](http://www.uwec.edu/graduate)

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

**ADMISSIONS OFFICE**

Schofield Hall 112

Phone: 715-836-5415

E-mail: [admissions@uwec.edu](mailto:admissions@uwec.edu)

Web: [www.uwec.edu/admissions](http://www.uwec.edu/admissions)

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