

# POST-MASTERS DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

## Program Philosophy

The Nursing Graduate Programs at Walsh University prepare advanced generalist nurses to assume leadership positions in a variety of roles. We believe that it is the responsibility of the faculty to provide an environment that stimulates the learner to think critically, communicate effectively and act compassionately. We hold the ideal of providing quality care to clients and fulfilling our responsibility as contributing members of the profession and society.

## Program Goals

To provide excellence in nursing education grounded in the human experience. The Gary and Linda Byers School of Nursing prepares the graduate to practice nursing within the framework of Judeo-Christian values promoting health in diverse communities.

## DNP Program Outcomes

- a. Practice at the highest level of clinical nursing by integrating and applying knowledge from the sciences within the fields of organizational management, ethics, health policy, and information technology.
- b. Demonstrate leadership skills in organizational and health systems management to improve the safety and quality of health care.
- c. Apply analytical skills and translational science methodologies to practice-focused scholarship.
- d. Provide leadership in interdisciplinary collaborative teams to improve health outcomes for individuals, populations, and systems.
- e. Utilize strategies of risk reduction, illness prevention, health promotion, and health maintenance for individuals and populations.
- f. Develop skills in the analysis and shaping of health care policy that supports health.
- g. Demonstrate skill in the application of ethical decision-making frameworks to resolve ethical dilemmas.

## Global Experience

While enrolled in the program, students may participate in the Byers School of Nursing's global experience(s). The student is advised to seek more information on global experiences from the Graduate Program Director of the Office of Global Learning.

## Admission Requirements

1. A current unencumbered United States Registered Nurse license(s) in student's state of residence. Two years of experience as a Registered Nurse is preferred.
2. Official transcripts documenting a baccalaureate degree and master's degree in Nursing from a program accredited by a national organization responsible for nursing accreditation (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACNE), Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or their equivalent). Transcripts should document a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale on all undergraduate and graduate coursework.

3. Completion of a 3 credit undergraduate or graduate Statistics course with an earned grade of B or above.
4. Two professional letters of recommendation supporting the applicant's potential for success in the Doctoral program. Recommendations will be accepted from direct supervisors/managers, faculty, nurse leaders and/or preceptors. Recommenders must be able to address the applicant's potential for success in a graduate nursing program. Recommendations will not be accepted from family or friends.
5. Resume or CV with application that includes work experience, educational, leadership and professional organization activities, and scholarly activities including publications, presentations, research, honors, and awards.
6. An writing sample/personal statement of a maximum of 1000 words that addresses the following (Please be thorough and concise with a minimum of two and a maximum of four, double-spaced pages 12 font essay).
  7. Discuss your personal and professional reasons for seeking the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) role at this time and how furthering your education will influence your practice as a clinical leader. Please include the following:
    - Explain your understanding of the DNP role and why you are interested in this particular role.
    - Describe your personal strengths and experiences (leadership roles, nursing experience, and community service) that will contribute to your success in graduate school.
    - Identify 1-2 long-term goals and how seeking an advanced nursing degree will support these goals.
    - Describe an area of interest that could be a topic for your future DNP Project.
  7. Official confirmation of clinical hours completed in master's program.

**\*An interview with faculty will be required.**

Code	Title	Hours
Foundations Courses (9 Credit Hours)		
NURS 701	Nurs Sci Adv Pract:Theor/Found	3
NURS 706	Hlth Care Policy, Organ/Financ	3
NURS 718	Hlthcr Tech & Data Mgmt	3
Research Courses (8 Credit Hours)		
NURS 702	Advanced Nursing Research	3
NURS 705	App of Epidemiol to Hlth Serv	3
NURS 708	Translat Evid to Clinl Pract	2
Specialty Content Courses (12-15 Credit Hours)		
MBA 723	Healthcare Finance/Economics	3
NURS 710	Nurs Role & Ethics for Clin Do	3
NURS 715	Clinical in Advanced Specialty	1-3
NURS 725	Adv Leader in Clin Practice	4
Capstone Project Courses (7 Credit Hours)		
NURS 730	Residency Practicum	3
NURS 731	DNP Project	1-4
Total Clinical Hours: 500 <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>32-37</b>

<sup>1</sup> Depending on the number of clinical hours that a student had in their master's degree program, some students may require an additional number of clinical practice hours post masters to reach the minimum number of hours mandated by the AACN for a DNP degree. AACN requires the DNP graduate to have a minimum of 1000 clinical practicum hours post-baccalaureate. Should the student come into the program with less than 500 hours of clinical time, NURS 715 must be taken until that deficit is corrected. Students may take NURS 715 for 1-3 credits.