

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Nursing Practice with a Concentration in Post-Masters Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (DNP)

Doctor of Nursing Practice

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program is designed for nurses that are seeking a terminal degree in nursing practice. DNP-prepared nurses are equipped to serve as clinical experts, change agents, and advocates in addressing healthcare in our nation. Specific areas of focus include: advanced practice skills, healthcare policy, organizational and systems leadership, interprofessional collaboration, evidence-based research, healthcare technology, informatics, and patient advocacy. The DNP program at ODU is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

ODU offers three concentrations in the DNP programs: 1) Post-Master's Advanced Practice (build on traditional master's programs for nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse midwives, and nurse anesthesia), 2) Post-Master's Nurse Executive, Post-Masters Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (for APRNs seeking to add a PMHNP and DNP) and 3) Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Anesthesia (CRNA). In order to graduate from Old Dominion University's Post-Master's APN and NE DNP programs, a student must successfully complete all 37 post-masters credit hours of required course work, including an evidence-based DNP project, and all clinical practica. It will take a full-time student four semesters (spring, summer, fall and spring) to complete the program. A part-time student will complete the DNP program in seven semesters (spring, summer, fall, spring, summer, fall, and spring). All of the master's programs in nursing at ODU include six credits that also meet requirements for the DNP program allowing students to complete the DNP in three additional semesters. See specific differing credit requirements and curriculum plans for Post Masters Psych Mental Health DNP and Post Baccalaureate Nurse Anesthesia programs.

See detailed information on each concentration in the following sections. Refer to the School of Nursing (SON) website for program specific curriculum plans www.odu.edu/nursing.

Post Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

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The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post Masters Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program has been developed to address a growing demand from advanced practice nurses for programming that enables them to obtain a DNP and an additional national certification as a nurse practitioner in the area of psychiatric mental health. This Post Masters Psychiatric Mental Health DNP program is targeted to licensed, registered nurses with an APRN MSN who wish to gain new skills and knowledge for board certification to provide psychiatric care services as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner. The Psychiatric Mental Health Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree will provide additional education for advanced practice nurses in:

- Advanced diagnostics and practice skills in psychiatric mental health;
- Care of the underserved and increasingly diverse population; and
- Incorporation of emerging care technologies.

To graduate from Old Dominion University's DNP Program, a student must have successfully completed all required course work, including prerequisite courses of NURS 800 and NURS 809, an evidence-based research project and all clinical practicum. The DNP Post Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner concentration is offered in an online/hybrid format.

Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements for the DNP Program

In addition to meeting University requirements, applicants must meet the admission criteria below..

1. Current, unencumbered license as a registered nurse (RN).
2. Master's degree in nursing or a related field from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum of 3.0 grade point
3. Baccalaureate degree in nursing or related field from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average.
4. Three letters of recommendation, with at least one from a former faculty member and at least two from former employers.
5. A 500-700 word essay that should speak specifically to the concentration area to which you are applying.
6. Current Resume

Application Deadline

September 1

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

1. Completed application for review and admission to the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner track and DNP program.
2. Prior successful completion (grade of B or better) of the following courses in a previous APRN MSN program, preferred within 5 years of admission:
 - a. Advanced Pathophysiology
 - b. Advanced Physical Assessment
 - c. Advanced Pharmacology

Curriculum Requirements

Psychiatric Mental Health Concentration

NURS 723	Psychotherapeutic Approaches & Treatment Modalities	3
NURS 725	Psychopharmacology and Neurobiology	3
NURS 726	Managing Psychiatric Disorders Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 727	Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Practicum I	4
NURS 728	Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Practicum II	5
NURS 800	Integrative Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice Roles	3
NURS 801	Roles and Responsibilities for Transforming Practice	3
NURS 802	The Business of Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURS 803	Leadership and Interprofessional Practice in Healthcare	3
NURS 805	Application of Practice-Based Research Methods	2
NURS 806	Proposal Development and Database Management	4
NURS 807	Informatics and Healthcare Technology	3

NURS 809	Advocacy for Healthcare Public Policy for Advanced Practice	3
NURS 865	DNP Clinical Practicum I	2
NURS 866	DNP Clinical Practicum II	2
NURS 867	DNP Clinical Practicum III	3
NURS 868	DNP Clinical Practicum IV	3
NURS 890	DNP Nursing Capstone	3
Total Credit Hours		55