

The Doctor of Nursing Practice Program (DNP) prepares graduates for the specialty areas of executive

program that begins the fall of each year.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Doctor of Nursing Practice is to prepare experts in specialized advanced practice with a Christ-centered focus.

Program Goals

1. To provide doctoral nursing education that builds on the foundational education of the registered nurse.
2. To prepare the graduate for enhanced knowledge and skills in a specialized area of practice.

3. To develop the graduate as a leader of one's specialty area of practice implementing the Christian worldview.

Program Outcome

The graduate of the DNP will be able to:

- demonstrate expertise in an area of specialized advanced nursing practice
- integrate biosciences, education, research, business, and technology into advanced nursing practice within the Christian worldview
- formulate organizational and systems components for leadership and quality improvement toward enhancing patient outcomes
- promote transformation of health care through interprofessional collaboration, policy development and technology utilization within an area of specialized advanced nursing practice
- evaluate outcomes of evidence-based research and design appropriate interventions for specialized areas of advanced nursing practice toward the improvement of the health of individuals, aggregates, and populations.

Academic Standing, Reimbursement, Probation, and Dismissal

After completion of 9 graduate hours at Union University, a graduate student whose cumulative GPA from courses taken at Union University for graduate credit is below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. A student placed on academic probation has one semester to increase his or her GPA to 3.0 or greater to be removed from a probationary status.

If the student fails to increase his or her GPA to 3.0 or greater during the following semester, the student will be dismissed from the DNP Program. Students will also be dismissed if they receive an “F” (i.e. any grade below a “C”) in any course.

Students must maintain an overall B average. The program faculty recognize that situations may arise which prevent students from successfully matriculating through the program. Students who are concerned about their academic standing should contact his or her advisor. If it appears the student may not be able to achieve a minimum passing grade in a course they may be encouraged by the Chair of graduate program to withdraw from the program. This can potentially prevent the student from acquiring an F on their Union University transcript if the dropped class occurs prior to the deadline listed on the academic calendar (“last day to drop a class”). All students who withdraw or who are academically dismissed from the program can reapply for admission. However, readmission is not guaranteed. In order to graduate with the DNP, students are required to have a minimum GPA of 3.0 for all courses taken for graduate credit at Union University.

Financial Information

Tuition Rates

RN to DNP tuition

Nurse Practitioner

Undergraduate..... \$420/credit hour

BSN to DNP.....\$14,300/year

Executive Leadership

Undergraduate..... \$420/credit hour

BSN to DNP.....\$12,750/year

Nurse Anesthesia

Undergraduate..... \$420/credit hour

BSN to DNP.....\$26,500/year

BSN to DNP tuition

Nurse Practitioner\$14,300/year (F, S, Su)

Executive Leadership.....\$12,750/year (F, S, Su)

Nurse Anesthesia.....\$26,500/year (F, S, Su)

Post-master's DNP-all tracks..... \$825/credit hour

Application Fee

Corequisite: Biology (BIO)

500. Advanced Pathophysiology (2)

Building on a basic knowledge of pathophysiology, the student will analyze the mechanisms and symptoms of illness to provide advanced theoretical understanding of disease states and health problems.

505. Applied Anatomy & Physiology I (3)

An intensive examination of the human body that addresses the normal complex physiological processes of the cell, fluids and electrolytes, acid-base balance, temperature regulation, vascular hemodynamics, mobilization of fluids through the body and lymphatic system, musculoskeletal systems and function of the myocardium. The acquired information will provide the student with a body of knowledge to critically evaluate co-existing conditions of the surgical patient.

507. Applied Anatomy & Physiology II (3)

Prerequisite: BIO 221 and 222

A continuation of 505 focusing on the normal complex physiological processes of blood components and coagulation and the respiratory, renal, endocrine, digestive and nervous systems.

509. Applied Human Gross Anatomy (3)

Prerequisites: BIO 505 & 507, or BIO 221 & 222.

This course will incorporate the dissection of cadavers and viewing of anatomical models in understanding the nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, and urinary systems of the human body. Additional emphasis is placed on the needs of professional health care personnel.

Corequisite: Nursing (NUR)

507. Curriculum Design (3)

This course will focus on the development of curricula using outcomes-based learning experiences by addressing individual attitudes, knowledge, and skills that are assessable, transferable and useful in a multicultural world.

515. Advanced Statistics for the Health Sciences (3)

Prerequisite: undergraduate statistics

This course serves to build upon basic statistical knowledge. Topics include a review of descriptive statistics, probability, and probability distributions; confidence intervals and classical hypothesis tests for one and two samples; analysis of variance; hypothesis tests for categorical variables; regressions and correlation; and nonparametric methods, all with an emphasis on applications in the health sciences. Appropriate statistical software will be utilized throughout the semester. This course will use online (MoodleRooms) method of delivery.

516. Informatics and Healthcare (3)

This course is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills regarding the uses of information technology to support nursing practice, education, and leadership through a Christian worldview. The course will provide an overview of informatics topics including: computer systems and system development; standardized clinical terminology; informatics standards; electronic health records; retrieval and critical analysis of digital data, information, and knowledge; simulation strategies; and technology-aided instruction.

517. Educational Strategies in Advanced Nursing Practice (3)

The purpose of this course is to examine models and methods of teaching and learning. Bio-psychosocial, spiritual, cultural influences that affect learning will be incorporated. The nursing process will be used as a framework for an outcome based teaching-learning session.

519. Professional Aspects of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (3)

An introduction to the role of the nurse anesthetist as an advanced practice nurse. The course presents the Christian worldview of nurse anesthesia, the historical development of anesthesia, anesthesia as a specialty of nursing, the role of the nurse anesthetist within the context of the health care system, legal aspects of anesthesia practice, current practice and health policy issues, the personal and professional impact of substance abuse, the role of professional organizations of nurse anesthesia.

523. Clinical Prevention and Population Health in Advanced Nursing Practice (2)

This course is designed to prepare the student to apply evidence-based principles of wellness, disease prevention, and health risk in individuals, families, communities, and aggregate/clinical populations. The course also focuses on the study of culturally appropriate and holistic professional nursing care of persons in this pluralistic global society. Emphasis is placed on sensitivity to and respect for cultural diversity, communication, critical thinking, research, and theories of intercultural nursing.

524. Anesthesia Techniques (3)

This course introduces the ability of the student nurse anesthetist to integrate foundational anesthesia and scientific knowledge with learned clinical skills.

525. Introduction to Administrative Nursing Practice (3)

This course will integrate information about delivery systems, organizational mission, structure, culture, personnel motivation, management and networking. The focus will be on exploring these concepts from a nursing perspective and a wholistic Christian worldview.

526. Theory and Ethics for Advanced Nursing Practice (2)

This course explores central ethical and bioethical questions in nursing and health care, critiques and applies nursing theory to the advanced practice nursing role in the delivery of equitable and culturally relevant health care.

528. Nursing Administration and the Law (3)

A general background to the elements and characteristics of health, administrative, criminal, civil law and the implications for nurse practicing in an administrative role looking at malpractice, risk management, tort law and tort reform, OSHA regulations, construction, organizational management, laws affecting subsidiary corporations and tax law. Emphasis will be placed on administration of human resources including labor and legal issues, collective bargaining, labor laws, and the design of effective policies and procedures to reflect these laws.

559. Role Development and Collaborative Strategies in Advanced Nursing Practice (2)

The purpose of this course is to enhance the student's knowledge of advanced nursing practice roles and interprofessional roles in healthcare delivery. Emphasis is on integrating philosophical inquiry, theory analysis, and translational research findings to improve healthcare outcomes for culturally diverse individuals and teams.

572. Nursing Administration Residency (2)

Prerequisites: NUR 593, 694A, 695B

A practicum experience designed for synthesis of theory and practice where students develop, implement, and evaluate advanced practice leadership strategies in a health care systems area of focus. An understanding of systems structures, processes, and outcomes is gained through practical experiences, personal reflection, and seminar discussions. Graded Pass/Fail.

574. Clinical Practicum II (6)

The focus of this clinical is to solidify the process of implementing an organized, safe and effective approach for the administration of anesthesia for general types of surgical procedures. The student will assume increasing responsibility for the independent delivery of anesthesia care to the surgical patient. Clinical preceptors at the various institutions will provide direction and supervision based on required clinical experiences. Pass/Fail grading.

579. External Domestic Study Programs (1-4)

All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

580. Study Abroad Programs (1-4)

All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

585-586-587. Special Studies in Nursing (1-6)

Group studies which do not appear in the school course offerings. Content will be determined by need.

593. Nursing Administration Practicum I (1)

Experiential application of the concepts examined in Introduction to Administrative Nursing Practice in a workplace setting with a preceptor in nursing management. Pass/Fail.

598. Seminar (1-3)

Seminar (1-3) A non-lecture research and discussion course. Course content is determined by need. Pass/Fail.

617. Primary Care of Family: Pediatric and Women's Health (4)

Prerequisite: BIO 500; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622.

Designed to enhance knowledge and skills related to management of maternal child health care, this course emphasizes acute episodic and chronic conditions in the context of primary care. Management consists of identifying, monitoring, treating and maintaining health care problems in children and child-bearing women utilizing research and evidence-based practice. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in a variety of primary care settings.

622. Advanced Pharmacology (3)

695B. Nursing Administration Practicum III (2)

Prerequisites: NUR 593, 693A

A practicum experience designed for synthesis of theory and practice where students develop, implement, and evaluate advanced practice leadership strategies in a health care systems area of focus.

696. Thesis (3)

Prerequisites: NUR 514, 530.

This course enables the implementation of the research proposal developed in the nursing research course. This project will focus on a problem in a school/college of nursing or health care delivery system. The subject of health care improvements is emphasized through nursing research utilization. Pass/Fail.

697. Scholarly Project (3)

Prerequisites: NUR 514, 530.

794. DNP Project Completion (3)

A faculty-guided scholarly experience to allow the student to evaluate and disseminate findings of the evidence-based practice project addressing a clinically relevant problem.

755. DNP Special Study (1-4)

Group studies which do not appear in the School course offerings. Content will be determined by need. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

765. DNP Independent Study (1-4)

Individual research and study under the guidance of a nursing faculty member. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

779. DNP External Domestic Study (1-4)

All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

780. DNP Study Abroad (1-6)

All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.