

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE IN THE FIELD OF PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER

The doctor of nursing practice (DNP) in the field of psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner prepares graduates to function as nurses at the highest level of clinical practice, translating knowledge into practice, applying policy, and designing, implementing, and evaluating innovations to improve healthcare systems and patient-centered outcomes. Registered nurses are offered an opportunity to expand their scope of practice to include the care of individuals, families, and groups with psychiatric and mental health needs.

GW's lifespan curriculum is a synthesis of knowledge derived from nursing science, neuroscience, behavioral change theories, motivational theories, learning theories, and other psychotherapeutic frameworks. It is designed to provide a holistic perspective from which to assess, diagnose, treat, manage and evaluate acute and chronic mental illnesses. Students learn about neuropsychopharmacology, interprofessional collaborative practice, crisis intervention, trauma-informed care, health policy, family systems theory, psychotherapy, group therapy, care of vulnerable populations, promotion of mental health and prevention of mental illness, substance use and co-occurring disorders, and other mental illnesses across the lifespan.

Visit the program website (<https://nursing.gwu.edu/dnp-psychiatric-mental-health-nurse-practitioner/>) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admission Fall - Priority: December 1 deadline:

Recommendations: Two letters of recommendation
Requirements:

Prior academic records: Official transcripts from all post-secondary schools attended

Statement of Purpose: A personal statement describing your career goals relative to the doctoral study. You should include a general idea for your DNP project. Your vision for your post-DNP contributions to advance the nursing profession through scholarship and evidence-based practice must be emphasized in the statement. Also, briefly describe your professional nursing practice and indicate any current or previous leadership roles. The applicants with a clear idea of a potential DNP project and the ability of the project to enhance/improve/contribute to nursing practice will be given preference for admission.

Prerequisites: None

Additional Requirement: Minimum of Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from a regionally accredited college or university with a preferred minimum cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

Active and unencumbered RN license from a U.S. state or territory

Current resume

International Requirements: The minimum required score for the TOEFL is:

- Internet-based test: 100 or higher

- Paper test: 600 or higher

The minimum required score for the IELTS is:

- An overall band score of 7.0 Individual band scores of 6.0 or higher

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Office of Admissions
45085 University Drive, Suite 201-T
Ashburn, VA 20147

Contact for questions:

nursing@gwu.edu ~ 571-553-0138 (phone)
<https://nursing.gwu.edu/admissions-aid> (<https://nursing.gwu.edu/admissions-aid/>)
9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 74 credits in required courses. In addition, students are expected to complete 600 direct clinical hours and 500 indirect DNP practice hours.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------|---|---------|
| NURS 6208 | Biostatistics for Health Care Research | |
| NURS 6220 | Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology | |
| NURS 6222 | Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning | |
| NURS 6233 | Genetics for Healthcare Providers | |
| NURS 6234 | Advanced Pharmacology for Nursing | |
| NURS 6242 | Psychopharmacology | |
| NURS 6243 | Addiction and Change | |
| NURS 6244 | Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing with Families and Groups Across the Life Span | |
| NURS 6245 | Psychiatric/Mental Health Diagnostic Assessment Across the Lifespan | |

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| NURS 6246 | Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Nursing with Individuals Across the Life Span |
| NURS 6247 | Population-Based Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Nursing Across the Life Span |
| NURS 6248 | Integrated Application of Psychiatric/Mental Health Advanced Practice Nursing |
| NURS 8400 | Epidemiology and Population Health |
| NURS 8401 | Organizational Concepts in Nursing |
| NURS 8402 | Knowledge Management in Nursing |
| NURS 8403 | Translating Research into Practice |
| NURS 8405 | Healthcare Quality Improvement |
| NURS 8417 | Health Policy and Analysis |
| NURS 8418 | Healthcare Economics, Finance, and Reimbursement |
| NURS 8419 | Analytical Methods and Appraisal for Evidence-Based Practice |
| NURS 8489 | DNP Project Scholarly Inquiry |
| NURS 8490 | DNP Project Planning |
| NURS 8491 | DNP Project Implementation |
| NURS 8492 | DNP Project Evaluation and Dissemination |