

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:

Recommendation Requirement: Two letters of recommendation

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

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 3.3 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 a minimum of 1000 practice hours with an approved preceptor. Practice hours consist of a minimum of 500 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	

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