



# Online Doctor of Nursing Practice Executive Nursing Leadership Concentration

39 Credit Hours | 26 months to Completion

## Admission Requirements:

- Application and processing fee
- A Master's in Nursing from an accredited school of nursing (ACEN, CCNE)
- Official transcripts from the accredited colleges or universities that awarded the baccalaureate and master's degrees
- Minimum graduate cumulative GPA of 3.0
- Complete undergraduate level statistics course with a grade of "C" or better
- Two professional letters of recommendation that attest to applicant's character and work ethic
- Author a 500-word purpose statement outlining your interest in the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. Include the location (healthcare facility or organization) in which you plan to complete your DNP Project and a problem that is negatively impacting patient care and outcomes within that facility or organization.
- Professional CV or resume
- Unencumbered registered nursing license
- Apart from students living overseas on military bases, all applicants must reside in the United States to complete the required Clinical Practice Experience (CPE) hours.



## Graduation Requirements:

Students must earn a 3.0 GPA or higher to meet graduation requirements.

## Cost:

- Per Credit: \$767
- Per Course: \$2,301
- Resource Fees: \$2,600 (\$200 per course\*)
- Dissertation Fees: \$1,200
- Total Tuition: \$33,713

\*Resource fee is estimated at \$200 per course.

## Job Outlook in Texas:



**10,461 Jobs**

Open in 2020\*



**33,738**

Unique Postings (9/16-12/21)



**\$78,700** per year  
Median Earnings

## Acquired Skills:

### Top Hard Skills

- Nursing
- Nursing Practices
- Nursing Education
- Nursing Care

### Top Common Skills

- Management
- Leadership
- Communications
- Operations

\*Filtered by the proportion of the national workforce in these occupations with a Bachelor's degree.  
Source Emsi Analyst 2022.

## Core Curriculum:

### **NURS 701: The DNP Role**

This course analyzes the roles and responsibilities of DNPs and the competencies required for practitioner, leader, advocate, collaborator, and clinical scholar. Students will apply theoretical/conceptual frameworks that support implementation of the DNP role in a variety of health care delivery settings and evaluate their effectiveness.

### **NURS 703: Informatics to Improve Patient Outcomes**

Students explore information technology and patient care technologies to improve patient outcomes in a variety of settings. Students focus on designing databases for clinical projects and collecting and analyzing appropriate and accurate data in order to predict and analyze outcomes of care. Further, students use this analysis to identify gaps in evidence for practice and thus, improve patient care delivery.

### **NURS 705: Applied Statistics and Research in Nursing**

This course explores research designs, improvement science, and statistical analysis to analyze evidence based practice literature and protocols to improve healthcare delivery. As part of the course of study, students develop the need for a DNP scholarship project through a comprehensive literature review of an identified health care problem.

### **NURS 712: Epidemiology & Population Health**

This course integrates concepts from Epidemiology and Population Health in order to improve aggregate and selected population health. The role of the DNP in improving population health through collaboration with groups, organizations, and networks and the use of epidemiological applications and technology are emphasized.

### **NURS 721: Healthcare Policy and Clinical Practice**

This course reviews healthcare policies that frame health care financing, practice regulation, access, safety, quality, and efficacy, in order to address issues of social justice and equity in health care. DNP students learn to be "influencers" of policy by integrating their knowledge of practice into the analysis of policy development process and engage in politically competent action.

### **NURS 731: Organizational and System Leadership**

This course presents principles of practice management, including fiscal and organizational implications, to balance productivity with quality care. Assessment of the impact of practice policies and procedures in meeting the needs of patients in primary care will be considered. Improvement science, quality improvement and risk appraisal strategies, based on ethical principles and professional standards that are used to create and sustain changes at the organizational and policies level will be explored. In addition, the role of inter-professional collaboration in maintaining safety, quality and efficiency will be considered.

### **NURS 735: Quality Improvement**

This course explores leadership roles in the provision of safe and evidence-based nursing care using quality improvement techniques, tools, and appropriate healthcare outcome measures. Students apply strategies for the engagement of inter-professional teams, stakeholders, and patients, their families in the pursuit of the values of high-reliability organizations.

## Concentration Curriculum:

### **NURS 716: Healthcare Finance and Clinical Practice**

This course explores the impact of health care finance and related policies on the development, implementation, and evaluation of advanced practice. Students apply principles of business, finance and economics to insure quality, cost-effective care.

### **NURS 733: Healthcare Reform: Current Issues Affecting Nursing Practice**

This course will examine and analyze the impact of healthcare reform and the evolution of the US health care delivery system toward Pay for Performance (P4P) in the US will be explored. Strategies to address the resulting ethical and legal dilemmas will also be analyzed.

### **NURS 742 - Healthcare Leadership Strategies for Organizational Effectiveness**

This course introduces theoretical and practice-oriented domains and competencies required of the executive nurse leader. Students will develop innovative strategic leadership and communication styles to positively impact the current healthcare constraints. Emphasis is placed on developing interprofessional relationships and communication skills necessary to improve healthcare quality and organizational outcomes.

### **NURS 746 - Finance and Human Resource Management for Optimal Quality Outcomes**

Introduces concepts of economics, finance, accounting, cost benefit analysis and human resource management within American healthcare business models. The focus of strategic management principles is aligned with organizational outcome priorities to improve quality metric care delivery. Fosters insight into policies for human resource management to ensure appropriate recruitment, selection, retention and management of a nursing workforce.

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## Additional Major Requirements:

### **NURS 752 Scholarly Project Proposal**

Students in this course integrate principles of evidence-based research, improvement science, and information technology into the development of a DNP project. Theoretical frameworks which provide direction for projects are also considered. Students develop a plan to address the problem of interest identified in a literature review developed in Advanced Research and Statistics. Students craft a mission, goals and objectives, as well as an action plan for the project. The action plan includes selection of a relevant population and evidence-based interventions. Students will serve as peer reviewers for colleagues' projects.

### **NURS 758: Scholarly Project Implementation**

This course provides the student with the tools to finalize their DNP project. Students will defend, submit a scholarly paper and describe their plan for disseminating the results. Students complete final edits to their project papers and prepare for editorial review and publication in the university's Digital Commons database.

Students also work on a manuscript for publication of their project findings that provides a brief overview of their project results and plans for contributions to nursing and medical sciences.