

Doctor of Nursing Practice

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

100% ONLINE

39
CREDIT
HOURS

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 Résumé.
- 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.

Cost:

- Per Credit: \$767
- Per Course: \$2,301
- Total Tuition: \$29,913
- Total Tuition + Fees: \$33,843



Timeline: 26 Months

Job Outlook in Texas:

15,847 Jobs

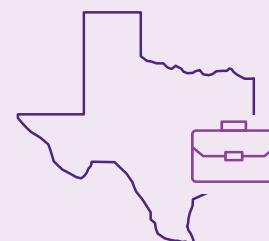
in 2025*

+3.3%

Employment Growth (2025-2026)

\$93,000 *per year*

Median Earnings



*Filtered by the proportion of the national workforce in these occupations with a Masters degree. Source Lightcast 2026.



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.

Executive Nursing Leadership Concentration:

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 analyze.

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.



Infomatics Concentration:

NURS 707: Human Factors in Health Informatics

This doctoral-level course explores human-centered design, usability, and IT integration in clinical workflows. Students will examine how cognitive load, decision-making, and human-computer interaction impact health IT system design. Students will learn to create user-friendly systems that reduce cognitive overload and improve clinician and patient experiences, enhancing clinical workflows and patient care. Not applicable for another DNP track.

NURS 725: Consumers Policy and HIT Policy: Database Principles. Database Principles (Course1)

This course introduces the principles of consumer health informatics and the regulatory and policy frameworks that govern digital health tools. Students will examine how consumer engagement, data transparency, health equity, and patient-generated data influence the development of patient-facing technologies. Emphasis is placed on database concepts within the context of health information exchange (HIE), social determinants of health (SDOH), and consumer empowerment through HIT. Not applicable for another DNP track.

NURS 732: Data Management & Clinical Decision Making Systems in Healthcare

This course emphasizes the advanced principles and applications of clinical data management to inform intelligent decision-making across health systems. Students will focus on the architecture of clinical databases, structured and unstructured data integration, and the evaluation of data pipelines supporting clinical decision support systems (CDSS). The course highlights predictive analytics, real-time data applications, and visualization techniques to drive precision care and strategic planning. Not applicable for another DNP track.

NURS 744: Health IT Leadership: IT Systems Design, Implementation, and Adoption

This doctoral-level course focuses on developing leadership skills for managing the design, implementation, and adoption of Health IT systems within healthcare organizations. Students will learn project management, change management strategies, and address challenges like interoperability and stakeholder engagement. The course emphasizes ethical decision-making, strategic leadership, and aligning Health IT initiatives with organizational goals to improve patient care and efficiency. Not applicable for another DNP track.

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.