Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Earn Your Doctorate & Advance the Profession of Nursing
Are you an experienced clinician who wants to take your practice to the next level? Pursuing a doctoral degree in nursing is the perfect way to enhance your practice and advance the profession of nursing. Whether you are interested in conducting research, teaching in higher education, serving as a practice leader, or providing evidence-based advanced practice at an even higher level, our doctoral programs will help you achieve your career goals.

Points of Pride
The UC College of Nursing is dedicated to developing innovative nurse leaders through education, practice, service and scholarship. With a rich history and bold ambitions for the future, we hope you join us on your journey to success.

- **We are a leader in the field.** The UC College of Nursing offered the first BSN program in the country and is ranked among the top 7% of nursing schools.
- **Size Creates Opportunity.** The College of Nursing is the largest nursing school in Ohio with over 2,000 students. As part of the engaging University of Cincinnati community, the college has access to the resources of a large urban research university on the rise.
- **Resources at your fingertips.** Benefit from state-of-the-art technology at the UC College of Nursing with educational spaces, virtual classrooms and e-learning capacity fully equipped with the latest in technology and innovative teaching tools.
- **Financial Assistance & Scholarships.** The College of Nursing and the UC Graduate School offer significant financial assistance to help graduate students transition back to the classroom. Over $1 million in scholarship and graduate assistantship funding is annually awarded to College of Nursing students. For more details about specific scholarships, visit [www.nursing.uc.edu/future/aid](http://www.nursing.uc.edu/future/aid)
- **Learn Among A Community of Scholars.** A wide range of nursing research is being conducted in the College of Nursing. In the 2009-2010 school year, faculty members and students were awarded $2,690,271 for research and program grants. As a doctoral student, you'll be supported and mentored by a community of nurse leaders in research and advanced practice and have the opportunity to study and publish among recognized scholars in the field.
Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)

The Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) was developed to meet the demand for nurse leaders in an increasingly complex healthcare industry. The DNP program is directly related to the mission of the UC CON. The mission, to “develop nurse leaders who are empowered to generate, explore, and apply nursing knowledge for evolving healthcare environments,” is epitomized in this curriculum.

The DNP offers an option for nurses who choose to maintain focus on providing leadership in nursing practice. Potential students for this program are committed to a career focused on the direct or indirect delivery of high quality nursing care and the improvement in outcomes of care. The primary areas of emphasis in this program are the advanced practice of nursing, utilizing best evidence in the delivery of nursing practice, and leadership in complex healthcare systems. A highly experienced faculty is dedicated to students’ success.

Program Options
Nurses who already have a Master's degree in nursing will earn the DNP in approximately 70 quarter hours. Full-time programs are recommended however part-time study plans are available.

The University of Cincinnati is converting to a University wide semester academic calendar in fall of 2012. The College of Nursing will be admitting students to the DNP program for fall of 2011 and then again in fall of 2012. Projected plans of study for both admission dates are available.
Can I be admitted if I do not have a MSN but I have a master’s degree in another field such as public health or business?
No. You must have a Master’s degree in nursing.

Is the requirement for admission that I be an advanced practice nurse (i.e., nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nurse anesthetist, nurse midwife)?
No. Utilizing the definition of practice from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, nurses in indirect practice roles, such as nurse administrators and nurse educators, are also eligible for admission. However, if you are not an APN and you want to be an APN, this program will not prepare you for APN certification examinations without additional APN core and specialty courses.

Is a GRE required for admission?
Not as long as your MSN GPA is 3.25 or higher. If your MSN GPA is less than 3.25, you will need to take the GRE to determine eligibility for admission.

Do I choose a specialty in the DNP program?
No. You did that at the MSN level and we are only accepting applicants who already have a MSN. The two primary areas of focus in the MSN to DNP program at UC CON are evidence-based practice and practice leadership.

May I apply my regular work hours as practicum hours?
Yes. Practicum are related to practice leadership, the application of evidence-based practice, course objectives, and your topic of interest. That topic of interest will be developed in to your capstone project. If your topic of interest relates to your work environment, a portion of those hours may apply.

How many practicum hours are required?
The American Association of Colleges of Nursing recommends at least 500 post-MSN or 1000 post-BSN practicum hours. The UC CON MSN to DNP program requires 516 hours for Fall 2011 students and 504 hours for semester students.

Is the capstone project like a dissertation?
While it is a scholarly project, the DNP capstone is focused on evidence-based practice and the application of knowledge rather than the PhD dissertation which is focused on the generation of new knowledge. Also, consider that the DNP student completes around 500 practicum hours and the capstone in lieu of the PhD dissertation. The focus and requirement of each are different.

Is the program online?
The UC DNP program is an on-campus program. Some coursework will be available online asynchronously but there will be sessions that require you to come to campus.
Apply to the DNP Program Today!
Start your journey to success today by applying online at http://www.grad.uc.edu/ApplyOnline.aspx

The DNP program admits every fall quarter. Submit your application by June 1st of the year you wish to be admitted.

Admission Requirements
1. University of Cincinnati Application for Graduate Admission, including $45 fee.
2. Master’s Degree in Nursing
3. 3.25 GPA from last nursing degree or satisfactory score on the GRE
   Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work
4. Satisfactory TOEFL score for non-native English-speaking international students
5. Current license to practice as a registered nurse
6. At least one year of post-licensure experience in selected area of nursing practice
   within the last five years or completion of a structured internship
7. Satisfactory interview
8. Dossier containing a curriculum vita and a goal statement.
9. Three professional/academic references
10. Satisfactory health history and required immunizations
11. Successful completion (C or higher) of undergraduate statistics course.
## DNP Schema for Fall 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Year 1</th>
<th>Winter Year 1</th>
<th>Spring Year 1</th>
<th>Summer Year 1</th>
<th>Fall Sem 12</th>
<th>Spring Sem 13</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biostatistics for Evidence-Based Practice (4)</td>
<td>Epidemiologic Methods in Healthcare (4)</td>
<td>Finance and Economics of Healthcare (4)</td>
<td>Clinical elective (2)</td>
<td>Practicum 2 (3)</td>
<td>Practicum 3 (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNP Role Seminar (2)</td>
<td>Healthcare Policy (3)</td>
<td>Cognate (3)</td>
<td>Practicum I (4)</td>
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<td><strong>Total practicum hours:</strong> 168</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Year 1</td>
<td>Spring Year 1</td>
<td>Fall Year 2</td>
<td>Spring Year 2</td>
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<td>Scientific Basis for Clinical Reasoning (4)</td>
<td>Application of Advanced Clinical Reasoning (4)</td>
<td>Planning, Management &amp; Evaluation of Programs and Projects (4)</td>
<td>DNP Capstone (5)</td>
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<td>Epidemiologic Methods in Healthcare (3)</td>
<td>Finance and Economics of Health Care (3)</td>
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<td>Quality improvement and patient safety (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNP Role Seminar (3)</td>
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<td>Practicum 2 (3)</td>
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Total practicum hours: 504
Total semester hours: 45