The Villanova University Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program is designed for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), including nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists, and certified nurse midwives. Our DNP program is a practice-focused doctoral program providing APRNs with advanced knowledge in evidence-based practice, organizational leadership, and financial acumen to lead innovation in nursing practice and healthcare. The complex issues and changing landscape of healthcare have created a need for APRNs to respond effectively and implement solutions with interdisciplinary teams or independently in order to achieve positive healthcare outcomes for individuals and populations.

Explore this scholarly program that allows you to:
• transform your career
• continue working while learning
• collaborate with experts
• connect with convenience through distance learning
• pursue professional opportunities
• attain the required advanced knowledge and skills to navigate the complexities of the healthcare system.

DISTINGUISH YOURSELF WITH A VILLANOVA DNP—THE GATEWAY TO YOUR FUTURE
At Villanova, you will have access to a scholarly faculty and the resources of one of the finest universities in the country, plus an education based in a state-of-the-art facility, providing you with the foundation to advance the nursing field. The College of Nursing enjoys a reputation as a center for excellence because of the quality of its faculty and students, commitment to an institutional mission and the performance of alumni for over fifty years.

LEARN FROM FACULTY LEADERS
The faculty in the College of Nursing have distinguished careers, embracing professional leadership positions and providing consultation at the national and international levels. They are faculty who have engaged in research, practice and scholarly activities. The program is planned so that classes remain small to facilitate student-professor interaction.

DISCOVER A UNIQUE DOCTORAL PROGRAM
The program is animated by Augustinian Catholic values that characterize the mission of the University: the unity of knowledge, the holistic nature of human beings, the importance of community, the discovery of truth and a commitment to addressing the needs of disadvantaged and marginalized populations.

The College of Nursing, established in 1953, has a reputation of excellence and is highly respected for its contribution to graduate education of nursing faculty, administrators and advanced practitioners, which commenced in 1980.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice is a 32-credit full-time program offered in four consecutive semesters designed to meet the needs of the working clinician. The curriculum is implemented using a distance learning approach complemented by on-campus sessions. The on-campus sessions begin with a one week information and educational seminar the summer before the start of program. The fall courses will be delivered online with no on-campus requirement. Students will meet on-campus in the spring, summer and fall semesters. Whether you are on campus or at home, the College provides you with a personalized experience—one of the hallmarks of a Villanova Nursing program.
THE DNP PROJECT

The emphasis of the DNP program is on broad “systems thinking” in order to facilitate the design and implementation of models of patient care and clinical practice. Each DNP cohort will have a unique theme to direct the DNP Project as it relates to their individual practice environments. Each student will then use the theme as a foundation for their scholarly DNP Project. The project offers students the opportunity to apply advanced empirical and theoretical knowledge to design, implement, evaluate and intervene in the clinical environment based on the evidence. The DNP Project begins in the first semester of study and extends throughout the program. It is expected that students will focus on clinical issues and/or organizational systems that promote safe, effective, efficient and accessible care for individuals, groups, or populations.

ENVISION YOUR ROLE IN THE FUTURE OF NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

As a graduate of the DNP program, you will be able to demonstrate:

• Advanced clinical judgment, expertise and specialization in a defined area.

• Advanced levels of systems thinking and accountability in designing, delivering, and evaluating evidence-based practice to improve healthcare quality, safety, and outcomes.

• Leadership in the development and implementation of patient-driven, institutional, local, state, federal and/or international health policy in a select content/specialty area.

• Use of leadership skills to design, direct, implement and execute a scholarly project.

• Effective collaboration with nursing and other disciplines in clinical practice to promote cultural competence in response to the healthcare needs and concerns of society.

PREREQUISITES

• Applicants must be a Post-Master’s Advance Practice Nurse

• 3.5 grade point average in master’s program

• Applicants must hold licensure in nursing in a jurisdiction of the United States

• B or better in a graduate level nursing research course

• Applicants must hold a national certification in their area of specialty

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Students begin the program with a one week on campus visit in Summer Session I (early June). Complete applications for admission must be received by January 15 prior to the summer for which admission is sought. Applicants are notified of acceptance early in the spring semester before they attend the on-campus orientation and summer session.

LEARN MORE

For a complete description of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, including complete application instructions, forms and relevant deadlines, visit www.villanova.edu/nursing/dnp.

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