Doctor of Nursing Practice
College of Health & Human Services

Achieve Your Professional Dreams and Goals
GSU nursing programs prepare nurse leaders who address the challenges of local, regional, national and global healthcare reform. Our program focuses on providing quality, holistic care, creating healing environments and building caring communities. The GSU nursing faculty includes Advanced Practice Nurses, seasoned educators and doctorally-prepared researchers who provide students with an exceptional educational experience. The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program has been offered by GSU since 2008.

The DNP provides a professional practice doctorate in nursing designed for applicants to matriculate at two entry points: post baccalaureate or post master’s degree with a major in nursing. The degree prepares the graduate for a career in one of the following concentrations:

- Direct practice
- Community behavior
- Leadership/administration
- Practitioner/educator

The sequence of courses provides the DNP graduate with the skills to assume leadership in meeting the healthcare needs of clients in a variety of settings. The program emphasizes the care of vulnerable populations. Admission to the DNP is competitive. Only a limited number of applicants are admitted to the program. The annual application deadline is March 1.

Built for You – the Working Nurse
The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program is offered in a manner that considers the needs of the working nurse. Students typically enroll in two courses each term.

DNP Accreditation Status
Accreditation/Approval to grant the degree was bestowed by the Illinois Board of Higher Education in December, 2007, and approved by the Higher Learning Commission. The GSU Nursing faculty is participating in the candidacy process toward accreditation of the DNP program through the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

Learn More
Email NursingAdvisor@govst.edu, call Julie Anderson at 708.534.4086 or visit the Department of Nursing website at www.govst.edu/dn.
Apply at http://www.govst.edu/Admissions/Apply_Online/ by March 1.

Fact
The education system should provide nurses with the tools needed to evaluate and improve standards of patient care and the quality and safety of care while preserving fundamental elements of nursing education, such as ethics and integrity and holistic, compassionate approaches to care. Source: The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, Institute of Medicine, 2010
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Required Courses Post-Master’s Entry (44-47 Hours)
Core Courses (29 Hours)
DNP 8171 Healthcare Leadership (3)
DNP 8172 Diversity, Spirituality & Social Issues (3)
DNP 8173 Policy, Power & Politics in Nursing Leadership (3)
HLSC 7500 Inter-Professional Collaboration (3)
HLSC 8400 Information Management Nursing Decision Support (3)
HLSC 8300 Epidemiology (3)
HLSC 8350 Responsible Conduct of Research (3)
HLAD 7105 Applied Research Methods for Health or Administration (3)
STAT 8260 Advanced Statistics in Behavioral Health (3)
DNP 9180 Nursing Leadership Internship (2)
DNP 9181 Advanced Evidenced-Based Nursing Practice (3)

Role Development Courses (10-13 Hours)
Practitioner/Educator Role
NURS 8610 Curriculum Development in Nursing (3)
NURS 8611 Instructional Methods in Nursing (3)
NURS 8612 Measurement & Evaluation in Nursing (3)
DNP 9510 Practitioner/Educator Role Residency (4)

Community Behavior
HLSC 8750 Healthcare Organizational Behavior (3)
DNP 9280 Population-Based Healthcare Delivery Systems (3)
DNP 9281 Risk Management in Population Health (3)
or
HLSC 9200 Healthcare Security & Disaster Preparedness (3)
DNP 9520 Community Role Residency (4)

Leadership/Administration Role
DNP 9380 Nursing Leadership, Innovation & Entrepreneurship (3)
HLAD 7107 Economics of Health Administration (3)
DNP 9530 Leadership/Administrator Role Residency (4)

Direct Practice Role
DNP 9480 Care of Vulnerable Populations (3)
  Elective (3)
DNP 9540 Advanced Practice Role Residency (4)

Scholarly Project (5 Hours)*
DNP 9600 Introduction to Capstone Proposal (1)
DNP 9601 DNP Proposal Development (1)
DNP 9602 DNP Proposal Development II (1)
DNP 9961 Scholarly Project (2)
The DNP scholarly proposal and project courses may take more than one semester and are guided by the student’s doctoral committee.

Total: 44-47 Hours Minimum

Required Courses Post-Baccalaureate Entry (86-89 Hours)
The post-baccalaureate option requires that the student complete one of the following four programs of study prior and in addition to those required for the Post-Master’s Option:
Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult/Gerontological Health (42 Hours)
Please see our website: www.govst.edu/chhs/dn/msn
Nursing Executive & Innovative Leadership (42 Hours)
Please see our website: www.govst.edu/chhs/dn/msn
Family Nurse Practitioner (44 Hours)
Please see our website: www.govst.edu/chhs/dn/msn

Required Courses Post-Master’s Option (44-47 Hours)
Total: 86-89 Hours

Attention Foreign Applicants:
Applicants with degrees from countries other than the United States must have their international transcripts evaluated by a NACES (http://www.naces.org/members.html) approved agency, unless the applicant is affiliated with one of Governors State University’s recruiting agencies - INDUS or College Study US. If applicant is affiliated with a GSU recruiting agency, an in-house evaluation will be performed by a Foreign Credential Evaluator in the Office of International Services. Applicants must assume all responsibility for fees associated with testing and evaluating. All required credentials must be on file in the Office of Admissions before an applicant can be admitted to the program.

Governors State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

This information is for reference only. For complete degree information, please refer to the current approved Governors State University catalog online at www.govst.edu/catalog.