PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Fairfield University's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a clinical doctorate in an advanced specialty of nursing practice. A DNP is comparable to clinical doctorates in other health disciplines such as pharmacy, physical therapy, and medicine. With a DNP, you’ll be able to assume a leadership role in an increasingly complex healthcare system during this critical era of healthcare reform.

With a DNP, you’ll become competent in:

• Clinical practice
• Population-level healthcare
• Organizational systems
• Leadership
• Business management
• Clinical scholarship
• Information technology
• Policy-making

DNP graduates are healthcare leaders who will care for a cohort of patients within their specialty, while using a cross-population perspective to assess, manage and evaluate common problems. Graduates will apply knowledge about organizations, business management, information technology and policy-making to improve systems of healthcare delivery. They are prepared for practice leadership roles in a variety of settings – as clinicians, executives in healthcare organizations, directors of clinical programs, or faculty positions with a clinical focus.

COURSE OF STUDY

Below are the required courses for the DNP. Students entering the program with a BSN are required to complete 72 credits for the DNP Family Nurse Practitioner track. A total of 1000 practicum/immersion hours are required for the DNP (1 credit = 50 hours).

FOUNDATION CORE

• Epidemiology and Biostatistics
• Research Methods for Evidence Based Practice
• Advanced Nursing Roles and Reflective Practice
• Advanced Health Care Policy

ADVANCED PRACTICE CORE

• Advanced Health Assessment
• Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology
• Advanced Pharmacology

DNP CORE

• Clinical Prevention and Strategies for Change
• Research Translation for Clinical Practice
• Finance & Quality Management in Health Care Organizations
• Information Technology for Health Care Improvement
• Leadership & Interprofessional Collaboration
• DNP Immersion
• DNP Seminar I and II

ADVANCED PRACTICE SPECIALTY I AND II: FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

• Adult Health I
• Adult Health II
• Care of Children and Families
• Care of At-Risk Populations
• Practicum in Adult Health I
• Practicum in Care of Women, Children and Families
• Practicum in Care of At Risk Populations

TRACK COORDINATOR

Sheila Grossman, Ph.D., APRN, FNP-BC, FAAN
Phone: 203-254-4000, ext. 2705
E-mail: sgrossman@fairfield.edu

For more information about the plan of study, course descriptions, or frequently asked questions, please visit our website at www.fairfield.edu/dnp.

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Joyce M. Shea, DNSc, APRN, PMHCNS-BC
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For a complete faculty listing, see www.fairfield.edu/son/faculty.
Students seeking admission must complete and submit the following online:

1. A completed application. (Apply online at www.fairfield.edu/sonapp.)
2. A non-refundable $60 application fee.
3. A professional resume. Applicants are required to submit a current resume that includes employment and educational history.
4. A personal statement:
   • Discuss a practice problem in your field that, in your experience, has a broad impact on patient care outcomes
   • State professional goals for the next 5-10 years
   • Explain how a DNP will help you reach your goals
5. Official transcripts verifying completion of an undergraduate degree (BSN entry) and master’s degree (MSN entry). All foreign transcripts must be evaluated by an approved evaluator. A complete list of approved evaluators can be found at www.fairfield.edu/eval.
6. Two recommendation forms and letters; one of which must be from a current supervisor or professor who can assess one’s clinical expertise and potential.
7. Copy of current RN license to practice in the state of Connecticut will be required upon admission.
8. All international students whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in the English language by taking either TOEFL or IELTS exams. For admission to the graduate school, a TOEFL composite score of 550 for the paper test, 213 for the computer-based test, 80 on the internet-based test or an IELTS score of 6.5 is strongly recommended. Scores must be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service (TOEFL) or www.IELTS.org. Fairfield’s ETS code is 3390.

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE OPERATIONS
Location: Aloysius P. Kelley, S.J. Center
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Days: Monday-Friday
E-mail: finaid@fairfield.edu
Fax: 203-254-4008

FINANCIAL AID CONTACT INFORMATION
Questions about the application process should be directed to the Office of Graduate Admission.
Phone: 203-254-4184
Fax: 203-254-4073
E-mail: gradadmis@fairfield.edu

OFFICE OPERATIONS
Days: Monday-Friday
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Location: Aloysius P. Kelley, S.J. Center

SCHOOL OF NURSING WEBSITE
www.fairfield.edu/nursing

ONLINE CATALOG
For detailed course descriptions and other University information, please refer to our online catalog www.fairfield.edu/catalogs.

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