



Curriculum effective Fall 2021

Rev. 11/30/2020

Post-Baccalaureate DNP Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program

The Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program is based at the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Campus in Newark, NJ, and is one of few programs in New Jersey preparing Post BS to DNPs in the area of Psychiatric-Mental Health across the life span. Graduates are eligible to take the national certification examination as a Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC).



Role and Qualifications: The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner DNP program is for bachelor's-prepared RNs seeking a doctoral degree. The program will prepare students to provide comprehensive psychiatric-mental health care across the life span to individuals, groups and families in diverse settings. This DNP program will create nursing leaders who will address emerging issues in psychiatric mental health, such as family and community violence, prevention of psychiatric illness and improving the quality of psychiatric care delivery to various populations. Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioners are employed in community agencies, state and county psychiatric hospitals, forensic facilities, and long-term care settings.

Scope of Practice: The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner provides comprehensive care to individuals, groups and families across the life span in diverse settings focusing on the improvement in the psychiatric-mental health quality of life using evidence-based practice. The Advanced Practice role is grounded in nursing, neurobiological, social, and psychological and behavioral sciences.

Curriculum: The Post-Baccalaureate DNP Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program is 78-credits with 720 precepted practicum hours. The program can be completed in either full-time or part-time graduate study, and is a hybrid of online and in-classroom courses. The following are the required courses for this program:

Core Courses:

Course #	Course Title	Cr. Hrs.	Clinical Hrs.
NURS 5104	Advanced Pathophysiology	3	
NURS 5105	Advanced Clinical Pharmacology	3	
ADHA 5107	Advanced Health Assessment	3	

DNP Core Courses:

Course #	Course Title	Cr. Hrs.	Project Hrs. **
NURS 6010	Clinical Scholarship	2	
NURS 6060	Clinical Inquiry for Evidence-Based Practice	3	
NURS 6930	Information Technology for Evidence-Based Practice	3	
NURS 6040	Determinants of Health	3	



Course #	Course Title	Cr. Hrs.	Project Hrs. **
NURS 6780	Healthcare Economics and Business Practices for Advanced Practice Nurses	3	
NURS 6880	Leadership for the Doctor of Nursing Practice	3	
NURS 6980	Epidemiology and Population Health	3	
NURS 6033	Quality and Safety for Advanced Nursing Practice	3	
NURS 6020	Management and Analysis of Health Data for the Doctor of Nursing Practice	3	
NURS 6940	Evidence Translation & Implementation Science	3	
NURS 6030	DNP Project Planning and Proposal Development	3	
NURS 6031	DNP Project Implementation*	3	
NURS 6032	DNP Project Evaluation and Dissemination*	3	

Specialty Courses:

Course #	Course Title	Cr. Hrs.	Clinical Hrs.
MHP 6090	Principles of Psychopharmacology	3	
MHP 6110	Theoretical Foundations of Psychotherapy	3	
MHP 6310	Biopsychosocial Assessment and Differential Diagnosis in Advanced Practice Nursing	3	
MHP 6140	Human Behavior Theory I: Care of the Adult and the Older Adult and Family	3	
MHP 6150	Human Behavior Practicum I: Care of the Adult and the Older Adult and Family	3	180
MHP 6160	Human Behavior Theory II: Care of the Adult and the Older Adult and Family	3	
MHP 6170	Human Behavior Practicum II: Care of the Adult and the Older Adult and Family	3	180
MHP 6180	Human Behavior Theory III: Care of the Child and Adolescent and Family	3	
MHP 6190	Human Behavior Practicum III: Care of the Child and Adolescent and Family	3	180
MHP 6210	Human Behavior Theory IV: Care of the Specialty Populations	3	
MHP 6220	Human Behavior Practicum IV: Care of the Specialty Populations	3	180
	Totals	78	720

In addition to the successful completion of the above course requirements, all DNP students must meet all the DNP project requirements set forth by the program. *A student who does not complete their DNP project during the project-related courses will be registered for a 1-credit project continuation course in subsequent semesters until the project is complete. **The minimum number of combined clinical practicum and DNP project experience hours is 1000. Students, however, may be required to complete more than 1000 hours to meet minimum competency requirements for graduation and certification (when applicable).