



Doctor of Nursing Practice Program



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For more than 60 years, the Department of Nursing has developed professional nurses who are liberally educated, ethically grounded and clinically competent health care providers.

The AACN (2006) states, "the terminal degree options in nursing will fall into two primary education pathways: professional entry degree (baccalaureate or master's) to DNP degree or professional entry degree (AACN DNP Essentials).

Salve Regina University Department of Nursing offers both pathways to the DNP.

Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing.

– Pele



About the Program

Salve Regina University, Department of Nursing has two pathways to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. The first is a Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (BSN)-DNP program and the second is a Post-Master's-DNP for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). The BSN-DNP programs are designed for nurses seeking a terminal degree in nursing. The curriculum provides clinical preparation for becoming a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and educates nurses in evidence-based practice, quality improvement and systems thinking, and leadership.

Graduates may seek leadership roles as advanced practice nurses, managers of quality initiatives, executives in health care organizations, directors of clinical programs and faculty responsible for clinical program delivery and clinical teaching.

The BSN-DNP program requires 78 credits. All post BSN students enroll into the BSN-DNP program. Students enrolled in the BSN-DNP program, who have completed 48 credits of graduate level courses and 600 clinical hours in the FNP role, receive a Master's of Science in Nursing which makes them eligible to sit for a nationally accredited FNP exam. Students who meet all academic progression standards then seamlessly progress into the doctoral-level course work with a Systems/Leadership focus and continue on to complete the remainder of the required 30 credits of graduate level courses, which includes 15 credits in scholarly project development.

The Post-Master's DNP requires 30 credits. Individuals who have graduated with an Advanced Practice registered Nurse (APRN) degree from another institution, may apply to the post master's portion of the program. The post-master's includes 15 credits of scholarly project work and a Systems/Leadership focus.

Both pathways of the program are offered in the evenings at our Center for Adult Education in Warwick. Classes are taught in a hybrid/blended format with a combination of on-line and in-class meetings. Financial aid is available.

In the BSN-DNP pathway, students completing 48 credits (including 600 hours of clinical work) will be prepared to:

1. With Certification, students will be able to assume the role of the advanced practice nurse to provide independent and collaborative health care based on evidence, scientific knowledge, and science based theory
2. Demonstrate leadership skills and culturally appropriate decision making throughout the continuum of an advanced practice nurse.
3. Incorporate continuous quality improvement within their healthcare practice and organization of employment to achieve safe and effective, quality patient care.
4. Demonstrate proficiency within the healthcare technologies to provide quality patient care as a integral part of the healthcare team based on evidence-based care.

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About Salve Regina

Salve Regina University is an independent, coeducational institution serving approximately 2,700 men and women from 35 states and 16 nations. Its 80-acre oceanfront campus is in the Ochre Point historic district of Newport, Rhode Island, and includes 48 new and adapted buildings. The University is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

Admissions requirements

Salve Regina University evaluates the total application package. Individuals with a bachelor's degree or master's degree in nursing from a regionally accredited college or university (or an equivalent degree from an accredited institution outside of the US) with a grade point average of at least 3.0.

Admission criteria includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Completion of graduate application
- Transcripts for baccalaureate and/or master's degrees in nursing
- Copy of Unencumbered license or eligibility for RN licensure and APRN licensure
- APRN National Certificate
- Resume
- Two letters of recommendation from clinical peers/supervisors
- Interview with the Department
- Evidence of completion of 3 credits in Statistics.



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Online: www.salve.edu/graduate-studies

In both the BSN-DNP and the Post Masters-DNP pathways, students will graduate with a DNP with a Systems Leadership focus. At the completion of the 30 credits (including 15 credits in scholarly project development), graduates will be prepared to:

1. Demonstrate organizational and system leadership to improve the quality of health care for persons.
2. Design, implement, and evaluate strategies to address the environmental influences of culture, economics, ethics, law, policy, politics, society, and technology on health outcomes.
3. Engage in the processes of critical thinking, communication, change, and lifelong learning as an advanced practice nurse.

BSN-DNP Course Requirements

BIO503: Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology
NUR505: Role of the Advanced Practice Nurse
NUR520: Research for Evidence-Based Practice
NUR512: Advanced Health Assessment
NUR510: Theoretical Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing
NUR533: Family Theories
NUR535: Pharmacologic Principles for Advanced Practice Nursing
NUR550: Managing Common Health Conditions
NUR552: Managing Complex Health Conditions
NUR540: Application of the Advanced Practice Nurse Role I
NUR514: Advanced Healthcare Informatics
NUR538: Health Promotion Across the Lifespan
NUR555: Application of the Advanced Practice Nurse Role II
NUR565: Application of the APN Role III
NUR615: Ethical Issues in Advanced Practice Nursing
NUR625: Organizational and Systems Leadership in Healthcare
NUR620: Epidemiology
NUR633: Business and Legal Aspects of Advanced Practice Nursing
HUM/NUR500: Research Methods
NUR650: DNP Capstone Project: Development (3 credits)
NUR655: DNP Capstone Project: Implementation (6 credits)
NUR660: DNP Capstone Project: Evaluation (6 credits)

Post -Master's DNP Graduate Course Requirements

NUR615: Ethical Issues in Advanced Practice Nursing
NUR625: Organizational and Systems Leadership in Healthcare
NUR620: Epidemiology
NUR633: Business and Legal Aspects of Advanced Practice Nursing
HUM/NUR500: Research Methods
NUR650: DNP Capstone Project: Development (3 credits)
NUR655: DNP Capstone Project: Implementation (6 credits)
NUR660: DNP Capstone Project: Evaluation (6 credits)
The Post-Master's DNP applicant must have a national APRN certification

Accreditation

The baccalaureate degree in nursing at Salve Regina University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC, 20036, 202-887-6791.

The BSN-DNP program is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

The Baccalaureate to Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and Post-Master's to DNP programs at Salve Regina University is made possible through the generosity of the Rodgers Family Foundation.