MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING—DNP PATH

The icon appears in the title of traditional courses that are also available as a set of module courses.

Description and Outcomes

The Master of Science in Nursing program is designed to build on previous nursing education and clinical experience, prepare you to pursue advanced practice in a variety of health care settings, and lay a foundation to pursue doctoral education. The overall purpose of the master’s degree program is to provide graduate education for advanced nursing roles that respond to the needs of individuals, families, and communities.

The program of study includes completion of the core curriculum, concentration or population focus area courses, and an evidence-based project proposal. The core courses focus on the acquisition of a theoretical base in nursing, evidence-based decision making, health policy, financing and organization of the health care delivery system, advanced practice issues, ethics, health promotion and disease prevention, and biostatistics.

Note: the Master of Science in Nursing—DNP Path program is not available in all states. Refer to Program Availability Information (https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf) for details.

Concentrations and Population Focus Areas

You will choose from three pathways designed to provide further knowledge in your chosen specialty and your specific advanced role: executive leader, family nurse practitioner, primary care, or adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner. Refer to the Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams (p. 3) section for important program disclosure information.

The executive leader concentration is designed to prepare you to pursue managerial positions and leadership roles in hospitals, community health, long-term care facilities, and other health care systems. Upon graduation, you may be prepared to sit for the Nurse Executive or the Nurse Executive, Advanced certification examinations (depending on the level of leadership with your organization) provided by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

The family and adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner population focus areas are designed to educate you on the topics of how to best provide primary care as a member of an interprofessional team and improve the availability of evidence-based, culturally relevant health care in diverse communities. The curriculum helps you develop the skills to evaluate the health and wellness of individuals, families, and their communities. The nurse practitioner is expected to possess skills in diagnosing, treating, and managing acute and chronic health conditions, to deliver primary and preventive care, and to participate in the development of appropriate policy and evidence-based practice.

Practicum and Clinical Practice Experiences

If you choose the executive leader concentration, you will complete a practicum experience designed to provide the opportunity for application of theoretical knowledge while working with a mentor.

If you choose the adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner or family nurse practitioner, primary care population focus area, you will complete a series of clinical practice sessions designed to provide the opportunity for application of theoretical knowledge while working with a designated, qualified preceptor. The clinical practice experience must occur in a facility or clinical site approved by the School of Nursing.

Refer to the School of Nursing’s Progression Requirements (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/graduate/nursing) section for additional requirements for clinical and practicum experiences.

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Enrollment in this degree plan is limited to those who apply to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program and possess a bachelor’s degree with an upper-level major in nursing as their highest nursing degree.

Successful completion of the Master of Science in Nursing—DNP Path is required to move on to the Doctor of Nursing Practice.

Program Length

The Master of Science in Nursing—DNP Path program consists of a minimum of 60 or 90 quarter credit hours, depending on your choice of pathway. Upon successful completion of the program, you will be awarded a master of science degree.

Program Outcomes

1. Theoretical Foundations: Synthesize theories and concepts from nursing and other disciplines for application in advanced nursing roles.
2. Evidence-Based Practice: Critique current scientific research for application of findings to initiate change and to improve practice.
3. Health Promotion, Disease Prevention, and Human Diversity: Create comprehensive plans of action that address the health promotion and disease prevention needs of individual, family, and community populations.
4. Health Care Policy, Organization, and Finance: Formulate a plan for ongoing contributions to improvement of health care delivery and development of health policy in a cost-effective manner.
5. Ethics: Apply an ethical decision-making process in professional practice and in analysis of systems of health care.
6. Professional Role Development: Exert a professional leadership role that fosters improvement of health care and advocates scholarly activities to advance self and the profession.
7. Informatics and Technology: Employ informatics and technology in various aspects of the advanced nursing leadership role.

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Outcomes

1. Demonstrate, through synthesis of theoretical and scientific knowledge, the safe, effective practice of primary care through management of both health and illness states.
2. Collaborate with the individual and community as well as other health care professionals for the purpose of ensuring high-quality, holistic primary care services.
3. Demonstrate the role of a nurse practitioner as a health educator and coach to individuals, families, and communities using a wide range of skills.
4. Demonstrate commitment to the implementation, preservation, and evolution of the adult-gerontology nurse practitioner role.
5. Incorporate critical thinking, collaboration, and interdisciplinary relationships into client care to achieve optimal outcomes.
6. Serve as an advocate for the client as he or she interfaces with the health care system.
7. Demonstrate a commitment to ensuring quality of care through consultation, collaboration, continuing education, certification, and self-reflection.
8. Provide culturally sensitive care in a holistic manner that is responsive to the client's cultural and spiritual beliefs.

Executive Leader Outcomes
2. Collaborative Practice: Develop collaborative relationships and partnerships that are interdisciplinary and aggregate-focused to improve the health care of populations.
3. Creating and Managing Nursing Care Systems: Provide leadership in conceptualization, design, implementation, and evaluation of health care delivery systems across the health care continuum.

Family Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Outcomes
1. Demonstrate, through synthesis of theoretical and scientific knowledge, the safe, effective practice of primary care through management of both health and illness states.
2. Collaborate with the individual, family, and community as well as other health care professionals for the purpose of ensuring high-quality, holistic primary care services.
3. Demonstrate the role of the nurse practitioner as a health educator and coach to individuals, families, and communities using a wide range of skills.
4. Demonstrate commitment to the implementation, preservation, and evolution of the family nurse practitioner role.
5. Incorporate critical thinking, collaboration, and interdisciplinary relationships into client care to achieve optimal outcomes.
6. Serve as an advocate for the client as he or she interfaces with the health care system.
7. Demonstrate a commitment to ensuring quality of care through consultation, collaboration, continuing education, certification, and self-reflection.
8. Provide culturally sensitive care in a holistic manner that is responsive to the client's cultural and spiritual beliefs.

Professional Competencies
In addition to the discipline-specific outcomes, professional competencies are integrated throughout your academic program. You can review the professional competencies associated with your academic program in the graduate School of General Education (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/graduate/general-education) section of this Catalog.

Program Availability
For program availability, please refer to the U.S. State and Other Approvals (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/accreditation-approvals-memberships) section and Program Availability Information (https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf).

Policies
Admissions Requirements
You must meet the below admissions requirements in addition to Purdue Global’s general requirements (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/requirements).

If you are an international applicant, you are not eligible to enroll in this program due to clinical requirements.

Acceptance to the program is at the discretion of the School of Nursing. You will earn a Master of Science in Nursing before progressing to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

If applying for admission, you must:

1. Complete an informational interview with an Admissions Advisor.
2. Submit the following documents at least 4 weeks prior to the desired start date:
   a. An unofficial transcript indicating completion of a bachelor's degree with an upper-level major in nursing and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher from an accredited institution. If accepted to the program, you must provide the University with an official copy of the transcript prior to the end of the first term. Refer to the First-Term Responsibilities (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/first-term-responsibilities) section for additional information.
   b. An unofficial transcript indicating completion of a statistics course and a nursing research course with a grade of "C" or better. If you have not completed these courses as part of your bachelor's degree in nursing, you must complete them before enrollment in MN504 Scientific and Analytic Approaches to Advanced Evidence-Based Practice, if admitted to the program.
   c. Have an approved criminal background check from the Purdue Global-approved vendor on file prior to the first day of your first term. Please refer to the Additional Requirements for Graduate Programs section under Admissions Requirements (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/requirements) for detailed information.
   d. Two letters of reference from professional and/or academic contacts indicating academic ability, personal character, and professional competency.
   e. A personal statement of no more than 350 words.

Progression Requirements
1. You must adhere to the progression requirements applicable to your current plan of study.
2. You can enroll in no more than two courses per term, unless approved by the Dean of the School of Nursing.
3. You may not use transfer credit to replace MN501 Advanced Nursing Roles, unless you are a graduate of Purdue Global’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing—RN-to-BSN program. In addition, you may not use transfer credit to replace any courses in the executive leader concentration unless you have approval from the Dean of the School of Nursing. If none of these exceptions apply, these courses must be completed at the University. If you are enrolled in the adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner or family nurse practitioner, primary care population focus area, you may apply transfer credit toward the following focus area courses only.
either certification, you may be academically eligible for licensure as an
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners' Adult population focus area, you may be eligible to sit for the American Nurses
Credentialing Center's Family Nurse Practitioner certification or the
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners' Family Nurse Practitioner
certification. These are primary care certifications. After earning either
certification, you may be academically eligible for licensure as an
advanced practice registered nurse in any state in which the program
is available for enrollment; please see Program Availability Information

Upon completion of the family nurse practitioner, primary care
population focus area, you may be eligible to sit for the American Nurses
Credentialing Center’s Family Nurse Practitioner certification or the
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners’ Family Nurse Practitioner
certification. These are primary care certifications. After earning either
certification, you may be academically eligible for licensure as an
advanced practice registered nurse in any state in which the program
is available for enrollment; please see Program Availability Information

Please note that most states require nurses to be nationally certified
and to have completed an accredited graduate nursing program in
order to obtain licensure as an advanced practice registered nurse.
Each national certification provider and state Board of Nursing will have
eligibility requirements in addition to these educational requirements,
such as passing a criminal background check. It is your responsibility to
determine whether you will be eligible for state Board of Nursing approval
and certification as an advanced practice registered nurse in your state.
Please visit the following websites for more information:

- National Council of State Boards of Nursing: https://www.ncsbn.org/
  contact-bon.htm
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC): https://
  www.nursingworld.org/our-certifications/
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP): https://
  www.aanp.org/education/aanp-certification-program

Degree Plan

The icon appears in the title of traditional courses that are also available as a set of module
courses. Module course availability may be limited to certain academic calendars. See Course
Types (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/
approach-to-learning) for information about module courses.

Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MN501</td>
<td>Advanced Nursing Roles</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN502</td>
<td>Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Practice Nursing</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN504</td>
<td>Scientific and Analytic Approaches to Advanced Evidence-Based Practice</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN505</td>
<td>Epidemiology and Health Promotion</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN506</td>
<td>Health Policy, Ethical, and Legal Perspectives of the Health Care System</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN507</td>
<td>Promoting Optimal Models and Systems for Health Care Delivery</td>
<td>5</td>
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Total Core Requirements: 30

Open Elective Requirements

Population Focus Area or Concentration Courses (see below): 30-60

Total Open Elective Requirements: 30-60

TOTAL CREDITS: 60-90
### Specialized Pathway Requirements

Population focus area and concentration courses are completed within the open electives requirement of the degree plan.

#### Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Population Focus Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MN551</td>
<td>Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology Across the Life Span</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN552</td>
<td>Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN553</td>
<td>Advanced Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN566</td>
<td>NP I - Introduction to Primary Care for the Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN572</td>
<td>AGNP I - Primary Care of the Adolescent and Adult</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN573</td>
<td>AGNP I Clinical - Adolescent and Adult Focus</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN576</td>
<td>NP II - Primary Care of Women's Health</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>MN577</td>
<td>NP II Clinical - Women's Health Focus</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN584</td>
<td>AGNP II - Primary Care of the Frail Elderly</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>MN585</td>
<td>AGNP II Clinical - Frail Elderly Focus</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN605</td>
<td>Transition to Practice</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN610</td>
<td>NP III Clinical - Primary Care Focus</td>
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**TOTAL CREDITS** 60

#### Family Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Population Focus Area

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<tr>
<td>MN568</td>
<td>FNP I - Primary Care Across the Life Span</td>
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<td>MN569</td>
<td>FNP I Clinical - Life Span Health Focus</td>
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<td>MN576</td>
<td>NP II - Primary Care of Women's Health</td>
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<td>MN577</td>
<td>NP II Clinical - Women's Health Focus</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN580</td>
<td>FNP II - Primary Care of Children and Adolescents Health</td>
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<td>MN581</td>
<td>FNP II Clinical - Children and Adolescent Health Focus</td>
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<td>Transition to Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN610</td>
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**TOTAL CREDITS** 60

#### Executive Leader Concentration

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MN512</td>
<td>Leadership, Organizational Theory, and Behavior</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN513</td>
<td>Health Care Finance, Strategic Planning, and Budgeting</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN514</td>
<td>Human Resources Management</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN515</td>
<td>Innovation in Health Care Information Technology - Administrative and Advanced Practice Priorities</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN520</td>
<td>Executive Leader Practicum</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN600</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Practice Project</td>
<td>5</td>
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**TOTAL CREDITS** 30