Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (DNP)

The Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner track of the DNP Program is designed to prepare graduates to conduct advanced health assessments and histories, develop treatment plans for acute illness and chronic disease management, manage overall adult and gerontologic patient care, including issues related to aging and development, and leadership in interprofessional advanced nursing practice.

Curriculum

Credit Hours
69 credits

Courses

Core Courses
- Theories & Concepts for Advanced Clinical Practice
- Research for Advanced Clinical Practice
- Population-focused Health
- Leadership and Roles in Advanced Nursing Practice
- Health Care Policy and Economics
- Social Justice and Ethics in Health Care

Role (NP) Courses
- Advanced Health Assessment Across the Lifespan
- Advanced Pharmacology
- Advanced Pathophysiology
- Basic Diagnostics for Advanced Practice
- Family-focused Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

Population (Adult-gerontology) Courses
- Common Health Care Problems of Adults/Older Adults
- Complex Health Problems of Adults/Older Adults
- Advanced Practice Nursing Care of Older Adults
- Palliative and End-of-Life Care

Practicum
- Primary Health Care Practicum
- Interprofessional Education Practicum

Clinical Experience

DNP students are required to complete practicums that focus on acquiring the advanced skills and knowledge to meet the competencies to practice as an Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP. Faculty design clinical rotations and place students with preceptors. Loyola maintains academic-practice partnerships throughout the Chicago metropolitan area with a focus on working in underserved communities.

A minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice experience is required before entering the first APRN clinical rotation. Clinical placements for students in these programs are in the Chicago area, and students must have an Illinois RN license before they begin their clinical experience/rotation.

Learning Outcomes

PROGRAM GOAL
The goal of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program is to prepare nurses to assume advanced roles in direct care and systems leadership domains at the highest level of nursing to improve health care outcomes through practice-based scholarship.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES
At the completion of the DNP program, the graduate has the knowledge and skills to:
- Apply integrated scientific, knowledge and clinical judgements at the highest level of professional nursing practice.
- Evaluate health care delivery approaches and healthcare systems, with an emphasis on quality and safety.
- Apply best evidence in approaches to client and system-centered practices.
- Apply analytic approaches and information technology in the delivery and improvement of client-centered health care and health care systems.
- Employ ethics, leadership, and advocacy concepts to advance healthcare quality and equity for individuals, systems and populations.
- Implement intraprofessional and interprofessional leadership and collaboration competencies and methods, at the highest level of professional nursing practice in advancing health and health outcomes.