PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER (DNP)

The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner track of the DNP program is designed to prepare graduates to conduct psychiatric mental health evaluations and advanced health assessment and histories, develop therapeutic rapport with clients and families, promote mental health, develop and implement mental health treatment plans included medication management and counseling and provide leadership in interprofessional team management of clients with psychiatric and mental health conditions.

Curriculum

The Psychiatric Mental Health NP program is a blended format with both online and in-person instruction, including Immersion weekends at Loyola’s Health Sciences Campus. Many students are working professionals with families, so we offer both part-time and full-time options to fit your schedule.

With our rigorous curriculum and significant number of credit and clinical hours, we seek to prepare you to successfully take the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) certification board in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Across the Lifespan).

Credit Hours

The DNP can be completed in 72 credit hours or about four to five years.

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
• Statistics for Healthcare Professionals
• Evidence Translation for Advanced Clinical Practice
• DNP Scholarly Project

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 (Psychiatric Mental Health) Courses

• Psychiatric Mental Health Advanced Practice Nursing Across the Lifespan I & II
• Psychiatric Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan
• Psychopharmacology Across the Lifespan
• Psychotherapeutic Modalities for Individuals, Groups, and Families

Practicum

• Psychiatric Mental Health Advanced Practice Nursing 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 a psychiatric mental health 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.

An RN license and a minimum of 2,000 hours of recent clinical nursing experience in psychiatric mental health is required before beginning your first practicum.

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.